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No. II.

REMARKS ON GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

Remarks on Government Establishments and the Contract System as applicable to Bengal; and on the propriety or otherwise of resorting always to Contractors for the Public Supplies.*

The advocates for the execution of all government work by contractors, use, generally, the following arguments :—

“ 1. Competition among individuals induces cheapness,—in fact the lowest price for work.

2. No government officers, acting either as Supervisors, Purveyors, or Executives Officers can possess the same zeal, activity, or interest for the public, than individuals must possess on their own behalf; the latter, therefore, are likely to cause better, and greater public benefit, by their more efficient controul of their own establishments and manufactories.

3. No government officers can possess the same skill in selection; have not the same self-interest in saving as individuals. A government invariably pays more for the same article, it is asserted,—and when purchased, material, works it up better, and, in the end, a complete article produced by a government establishment may prove more substantial, yet the cost of preparation of material have so increased,—that the aggregate cost of the article may be increased.

durability and service of which will far outweigh any advantage derived from original superiority of work.

4. A government officer, after all, being chiefly a *Supervisor* of any work,—why should not the same advantage be derived from his duty being confined to that of supervision of a contractor's execution of the same thing?

5. Contractors can be bound down by terms and stipulations, while penalties, sureties, their own self-interests, and hopes for continued employment must operate towards a faithful and efficient compliance with the terms of the contract.

6. In contracts, government see the whole expence before them, but in a failure with any one of their own officers, either as regards zeal, activity, or integrity, there follows some heavy defalcation or loss, in one sweep doing away every advantage of former asserted economy or efficiency.

7. A government is bound to diffuse work among the public and not to act itself, as a regal manufacturer or merchant, checking enterprise in the community at large, and withholding legitimate profit and means of livelihood to the many. Government agencies, it is asserted, are monopolies, hurtful to the community, eventually injurious to the state itself, and beneficial only to a few official individuals, and hangers on of the government."

The foregoing seven heads comprise perhaps the main substance of all that the supporters of contracts have advanced against the government performing its own work; and in replying to them, it may be well to concede at once, that these arguments may be correct as far as they regard every minor class of manufactured article, or of raw material, where the *many* of the public can compete, or where the supply results *bonâ fide* from the *many*, and is open to all. Thus in a large community where much building is carrying on, and there can exist no improper combination among private builders, contract work is to be preferred.* The provision of petty stores, military and marine, —grain,—food for troops,—perishable articles generally; in fine, any thing to be gathered at large, or produced from the resources of the many. In these, contractors have the advantage over public purveyors, simply because a government may well dispense with extensive petty establishments, or cumbrous ramifications of agents and servants, together with the unpleasant office of controuling and superintending so many *employés*: and because, perishable articles are necessarily got rid of by individuals, who also have better opportunities of disposing of second-hand, surplus or surplus materials.

* At the same time, for smaller buildings, Builders in competition does unnecessary work or cost of office. Their establishments and establishments.

. But here the concession ends: and applying the question to Bengal, it would seem that in all costly articles such as are produced at home in large establishments, the property of rich capitalists, or in the naval and military yards, the Government here, if it require efficiency and uniform economy, should perform its own work. But we will proceed regularly with the different heads of the arguments for contractors, and reply to them seriatim, though briefly, with reference to their applicability to heavy work at this Presidency.

No. 1.—Competition begets cheapness, &c. For all work requiring the use of large capital, *there has been, and is no competition in Bengal.* The Commercial Houses in Calcutta are too few—too much interlinked with each other, and, where extensive funds were concerned, too much dependent on the same resources to compete with each other in the true sense of the term*. Even with shipping, where all possessed formerly so much separate stock, it is notorious how much they regulated each other's rates and tenders of freight and tonnage. It is true, in the article of rum for the troops, there was much competition in the different tenders; but it happened that different houses had built extensive separate distilleries for foreign supply. All exportation failed, and these useless establishments struggled (on the periodical Government demand appearing,) to secure losing prices rather than that the capital sunk should be utterly lost and ruined. This case cannot apply to any general reasoning. The Houses who would in India undertake a contract on a large scale, are not in themselves possessed of capital for the purpose. In fact, as we have lately had fearful demonstration, there exists no capital, properly so called, in the Calcutta trading community: all money here belonging to the constituents of agents, or being the funds of current transactions, lent at, or bearing a higher interest than, the Government Securities. As soon as any gain or surplus arises from the agency of such money, the agent would betake himself home with the profits, draining the establishment therefore of all incipient capital. Under this explanation, and from other local causes, it is evident no contractor can step forward as in Europe to undertake a work on his own means. He must engage support from agents or others, who are themselves on borrowed funds; thus saddling himself with a two-fold advance of interest and expences. He must besides give security,—such security frequently personal, and the Insurers being again the few established houses here, clubbed together (as it were) in the different Insurance Companies, he has to allow them to divide a new source of profit to them, and of expence to himself. Thus, including interest, commission charges, and security, it may fairly be stated that he commences the contract at a disadvantage of nearly fifteen or sixteen per cent. expence on the very primary means of performing it.

* This was written before the failure.

This applies to Europeans. Natives of wealth are not men who would themselves undertake a contract for executive heavy work;—they might be concerned in it possibly, but the real suppliers of the means would not be the ostensible persons. It is unnecessary to point out the disadvantages of this mode of business.

Whatever the difficulty the contractor may labour under, the government must in the end cover it, and reimburse the individual; besides paying for the high profits ever expected by adventurers in India. The state can command the funds for its work at *one-third* of the interest or charges paid by individuals,—it receives the profit itself—and surely with care in the organization and controul of a public establishment, the government can *compete*, at least, with the asserted cheapness of the market.

2d. Government officers not so zealous, active, &c. as individuals looking after their own concerns. This position of the advocates for contract, is more specious than strong. After all, in any contract the head man, or virtual contractor can do little *himself*. He must have Banians, Sircars, Agents, Assistants, Overseers, Foreman and Workmen, who can have *his* interest no more at heart than any other master's. Yet a contractor will tell you, *he* has zealous, active, trust-worthy men under him. In a word, why may not the government possess the same? All detail must be trusted, not to men who have an interest or share in the contract, but to hired supervisors and operatives, while the more extensive the undertaking the more must such a system be increased. The public service is surely as well paid, as secure, as honorable, as open to merit, as any other: and if individuals can afford to pay better, the means must be met by the Government at last. In Bengal, much of the business in the different private establishments is managed by natives; has the Government not the *same* hold on these people as individuals? If a contractor require advances from his Baboo, the subordinate sircars must, as a necessary consequence, be selected from among the retainers and relatives of the head man. The government have found the means to check this practice in their own establishments. But I think General Sir S. Benthams view of the case, on general principles, effectually meets all the arguments that can be adduced under this head by the pro-contractors.

3d. Government officers cannot purchase materials or work them so cheaply as individuals. Bearing in mind what has been before said, we cannot understand why the examination of raw materials, and the skill in the selection, cannot be as good under a government employe as a contractor. In most purchases of materials on a large scale in this country advances must be made either to various Aurlings or districts; as with hemp, country cotton goods, charcoal, &c. &c. or the articles are provided through the agency of the Native Banian. The mere technical or practical scrutiny must depend on

ry where on the skill or integrity of the operatives. The detail of working up is still with the underling; and the efficiency of supervision here may be as perfect in a government overseer as in a private one. If a fit man be at the head of an establishment, fit and proper work will be executed in it; nor would it require more care or controul in a government to secure such superintendence, than must be exerted on its part to establish an efficient system of contract and ensure the due performance of the stipulations. It may be contended further, that where the government service offers a fair field to talent, there is more chance of its subordinates and workmen distinguishing themselves for zeal and skill, than in a contractor's establishment, where *he* is working mainly for profit, and his people cannot look beyond himself. Most people have been forced to admit that the work from government depôts is more substantial than from others; as the argument itself, at the close of No. 3 avows, and as was proved at Portsmouth where it was also CHEAPER.* The coppering of vessels always outlasted the contract sheathing; the dock yard masts were the best in the service, though at half the price of the contract ones; the 74 gun ships each cost from the dock yards £16,000 less than those built by individuals, and it is notorious, during the last war, that the latter required repairs earlier by many seasons.

The materials for expensive works are few. The qualities of timbers, metals, and fuel, are soon sufficiently understood by any commonly intelligent person, whether of the government or a private establishment; and if we reflect on the combinations, the mutual obligations, and frequent necessary interchange of interests between individuals in this community, it is a chance whether the best materials are not easier secured by an independent and unshackled public servant, than by the merchant, who is constrained often to pass by the best source of supply, and take at high prices what his circumstances or connections compel him to receive.

Nos. 4, 5 and 6. In certain supplies such as rum, or minor ordnance and magazine articles, the arguments in No. 4 and 5 are worthy of attention; particularly where the supplies themselves can be judged of in their prepared state. But no government supervision can efficiently check or controul any extensive contractor's operations *during the preparation of* supplies on a large scale. Neither as regards No. 6, are stipulations or deeds

* It was the same both as to superiority of work and cheapness, at the Government gun carriage agency at Cossipore, and the timber depôt at Bauloo Ghaut; and as it has been held up in argument against it, that the wood itself came from the Nathpore agency, where a heavy loss has been sustained by the Government, and thus the very ground work of the asserted cheapness is undermined,—it may be replied—true, there was a loss;—but add the loss in question or double the loss to the supplies, or to such of them as were made from Nathpore materials, and they are *still cheaper* than the market. The Nathpore agency was actually no loss to Government, until it was broken up, and until its stock, either felled or in progress, became thus useless and unavailable. Much of its fine timber, particularly Sissoo—even after all its mismanagement, would have been *cheap*, at treble its charge, including loss and every possible expence.

sufficient: the former Buff Leather manufactory at Kidderpore will establish this. The contractor, about a dozen years ago, leaving Calcutta from sickness, placed his manufactory under another incompetent person; some peculiar care necessary at one stage of the process of buffing was neglected: the article looked the same, but an improper fermentation during the steeping of an immense periodical supply of hides had taken place, and when the buff accoutrements made therefrom were issued to the army, they were found to wear only half of the usual term of years, and to possess no fibrous strength, or power of rejecting humidity. There was no alternative but to change the supply, and Europe articles were substituted; but the loss to the state must have been very heavy, as well as the hurtful introduction of an Europe supply where the country article ought to have answered every purpose. Here was an injury arising from an internal neglect at the manufactory, which no supervision of a government servant from without could have interfered with or obviated. The same neglect or error, we confess, might have occurred in any government establishment; and we are not without instances of melancholy loss in our public works and agencies: but wherever such cases can be adduced, it would be easy to point out equal or greater losses, either from failure or over prices, where the system of contract has been resorted to.

It is to be borne in mind that, in India we have never arrived at the knowledge of the lowest and most economical prices at which work could be effected, except through the zeal and integrity of *Government Agents*, and the practical results of *Government Works*. During the Mahrattah war of 1804-5, the state paid Rs. 9 12 9 per month, for feeding every bullock employed. It was found that under public officers the same was done in the Nepal war of 1814-15 for Rs. 4 9 6. Formerly Brinjarees were obtained at Rs. 4 0 6, through a private contractor. The commissariat hired them at Rs. 2 4, even on its early establishment. The same difference has been produced between the former charges for the liquor, rations, &c. for the troops, as well as grain for the cavalry.

Penalties, bonds, or securities have failed in Europe, though prepared by the ablest professional advisers of the various departments: no legal provision can meet every contingency. The Government in India can bind their own officers or public agents as effectually, at all events, as they can individuals, with this advantage in regard to the former,—that no servant can by mere legal evasion escape future responsibility, and must still be within reach, and amenable at any distance of time, while remaining in the service.

No. 7. Government bound to diffuse work among the public, and not withhold means of livelihood to the many, &c. &c.

This (No. 7) sounds well, but does not the same diffusion of *actual work* take place, whether the principal be a government servant or a merchant? The operative part of the transaction is much the same under either circumstance; the same number of workmen

figd bread and the public are equally benefited. It is true, a few individuals lose the profits of commission—agency—high interest, and mercantile patronage; but why should the Indian Government take from the community with one hand, the means of paying with the other a few only from among them, who are unnecessary in the transaction, and who are in reality but the middlemen, patrons, brokers and bankers of the real operatives? Constituted as India is, the revenues of the country are at last the only available capital for all public operations; by resorting to individuals for extensive works, the government is only placing the public money intended for public use, in the hands of uncovenanted individuals, instead of availing itself of its own means, and its own immediate agents and responsible servants.

ON THE PRESENT STATE AND PROSPECTS OF THE BENGAL MEDICAL SERVICE.

No. II.

The situation of a Medical Officer in India is peculiar. He is circumscribed in his prospects of honor and advantage to his own immediate department. He is without authority, influence, or command. He is in every situation the servant of the other servants of the Honorable Company. He is without the emoluments, consequence, or prospects of the Civil Servant, and without the honor or authority attached to the Military. He is often under the immediate command of his juniors both in years and service. He has in fact little beyond his pay to reconcile him to all the drawbacks of his situation. Having sunk both property and years in the acquirement of his professional qualifications and most probably expended all his means or treasured on those of his family, in removing to a situation bestowed on him by some Director, but of which he can form no judgment until he comes to India where he must put up with the service as he finds it; unable, if disappointed, to retrace his steps, and at an age and in circumstances too late to retire, he is at the entire mercy of his employers, in whose honor and justice he had reposed the greatest confidence.

These and several other points, were forcibly but respectfully urged in a memorial drawn up by the late Mr. Gibb, some seven or eight years ago, and signed by a large proportion of the service when a rumour respecting the intended abolition of the medicine allowance became pretty general. It submitted that the proposed abolition would ruin the hopes of the junior branches, and withdraw from the service its chief attraction. It solicited that several grades of Medical rank so long established in His Majesty's service might be extended to ours; that more additional pay or personal allowance should be given to Military Surgeons in India, after stated periods of service, on the principle adopted in His Majesty's service;—that the rates

of retiring pension should be augmented, and that Medical Officers should become entitled to their pension from the date of their promotion, as in other branches of the Military service.

Reasonable as the prayer of this memorial was, the Medical corps flattered themselves, its results would, to a considerable extent, correspond with their expectations, and that it would be followed by a speedy amelioration of a defective system. They were doomed however to be signally disappointed. To any one who with common attention has watched the tortuous and higgling policy of the Honorable Court of Directors towards its servants, it must have been apparent that a manifest feature of that policy was always to keep some just part of their rights back, in order to blink a question by the appearance of granting something. They never give you what you seek for *now*. They know too well, or think they know too well for that;—accordingly they take no notice of what you seek for *now*. They wait till several years, “drag their slow length along,” and when some matter assumes a prominent place in public discussion, and a feeling of agitation among many is perceptible, they cast a dribble out of the horn of abundance;—but mark *not* what is *now* sought for, but some little bit by bit of what *was* sought for, beseeched for, prayed for, and entreated for many years back, when even a bit by bit of what was so earnestly sought for would have been deemed a boon. When a child cries to such an extent that you dread its crying itself into convulsions you give it a bit of cake. It is on this sugar plum plan that the Honorable Court have always acted. The child may be crying from starvation, want of clothes, and a hundred other reasons;—no matter, in walks Stepmamma, gives it a sugar plum, and so *requiescat in pace* till it cries again;—and then ditto ditto repeated. The thing, however, is now seen through; and the wronged Medical service are no longer to be satisfied with a bit of sugar plum when they cry for beef and pudding and means of expending the dregs of life in their native land.

After the usual cunning delay, the Honorable Court, when the Medical service were reiterating their disappointments, their expectations, and their just rights too long paltered with in a double sense; out came a sugar plum for Dr. Gibb—and his co-memorialists. All hope of a comprehensive measure, liberally, largely, and with statesman-like views, embracing the wants, requisites, and interests of a most useful but hardly used class, was at an end for that time. But let us look to the sugar plum. The Court's self complacency in dealing it out reminded us of

Little Jack Horner,
Who sat in a corner
Eating his Christmas pie,
He put in his thumb,
And pulled out a plum,
And said ‘*what a good boy am I!*’

The sugar plum of that period consisted of the addition of £200 sterling to the retiring pension of the senior member of the Medical Board, (not however, mark you, till poor Mr. Superannuated has served his five years in that capacity,) and of £60 sterling to the retiring pensions of superintending Surgeons—but not (mark you, again,) before they have served five years in that grade.

Here was a sugar plum for you! True, the poor, starving, Assistant Surgeon, who, in despite of prudence and Mr. Malthus, yielding to the most ennobling passion of all—and fortifying himself with the best Egis against vice and licentiousness,—a virtuous and affectionate wife: or he who has formed an engagement with an amiable young woman to wed her when he *can* support her, (and thus satisfy *her* friends' scruples against their union) but, like Tantalus, beholds the apparent good ever receding from his lips: true, the poor Assistant Surgeon to educate whom and settle in the world, the small means of a large family had been pinched in the fond expectation of his prospering and becoming their munificent protector in process of time: true, I say,—each of these (and how many are there that might be classed under each?) might, in the hour of secret retirement, vent the agonies of bitterness and a wounded spirit. But Victoria! there is consolation for him,—there is balm in Gilead,—the Hon'ble the Court of Directors have sent a sugar plum to the Medical Board, and to the Superintending Surgeons!! How very unreasonable of these unhappy men, struggling with their hard fate and endeavouring to keep up a decent and gentlemanlike appearance in the world, and to maintain wives and little ones, or orphan sisters and brothers, or widowed mothers;—how preposterous of them to complain, knowing as they do that thirty or forty years hence, when they become *douce* grand papas, and may be considered as in the prime of life,—how very unbecoming and absurd of them to complain, when such a very cheering prospect, so full of life, so spirit stirring, when, in a word, such a very very sweet, nice, pretty sugar plum is placed before them, with a promise that if they are good boys they may have it and eat it forty years hence!

Add to the above, however, that in the face of the report of the Special Committee (of which I gave an abstract in my last) backed by the strong recommendation of a former Governor General in Council, and Commander-in-Chief, and also that of the Medical Board, and apparently in utter disregard of Dr. Gibb's memorial, the medicine allowance was abolished in General Orders dated 29th November, 1828, promulgated by the present Governor General in Council, in obedience to instructions from the Honorable the Court of Directors, and no fair equivalent made for the same to the junior members. The sugar plum increase retiring pension, too, granted to the members of the Board, so far from being deemed a boon to the service at large, or hailed as an amelioration of its condition by the general body—was even worse than a mockery, since to the ninety-nine out of the hundred of the

service, it appeared an ingenious contrivance to clog promotion, without much benefiting even the senior Surgeons.

To the juniors in the service the effect of the late change was, and must remain until some modification of it be made—most disastrous. It deprived them nearly of half their income *smack*, as the saying is,—and what did they get in lieu of two hundred rupees, or two hundred and fifty, derived from the medicine allowance?—the difference between the *batta* of Lieutenant and Captain. But even *this* may become affected by locality the moment the unfortunate Medico happens to be fixed at what the Government, for its own most liberal purposes, may determine and decree to be a half *batta* station.

But even when the service enjoyed the medicine allowance, they found it very necessary to study economy to the utmost; for many of us (thanks to Mars, I am not in *that* scrape!) had wives and families to support, and children in England to educate. The abolition of the allowance then had the effect of plunging the juniors into a state of despair. It also completely put it out of their power to keep up with the march of science and the extension of medical knowledge,—that is to say, they could no longer afford to be subscribers to the Medical and Surgical periodicals of the day, and to purchase such standard works as appeared from time to time—and which are as necessary to the medical man as his instruments and the articles of the *Materia Medica*. This is so obvious that to dilate upon the point would be superfluous.

The measure too, had another disastrous effect,—it paralysed the energies of the service. If changes so sweeping, and so materially affecting our interests as the one under discussion, may, at any time, upon a mere *sic volo sic jubeo* principle, be adopted by Government—what security have we for *any* allowances or for our pension? I answer none. Neither is it a great effort of causticity to declare whether it be equitable or just, after a man has adopted his profession and course in life under the pledge of long existing and supposed inviolable regulations, and after he has accordingly adapted his expenditure and formed his anticipations of the future: to throw him suddenly on the world, when he is too old or too entangled by circumstances to extricate himself from the difficulties of his position and shape a new course for himself.

It is somewhat surprising that the propriety (to say nothing of the necessity) did not suggest itself to the Honorable Court of Directors of maintaining with due respectability a class in Medical charge of at least 200,000 men. Instead of this, it is with pain and humiliation that this injured Corps has observed the value of its services and the estimation of its respectability in the minds of the authorities falling so low indeed in the scale compared

with the other servants of the Company, as to constitute, it may be said, a degrading exception.

Let us consider under what circumstances Medical men entered the service. They did so in the fullest confidence that the compact which previously to their setting foot in India required of them to enter into the solemn obligations of an oath and of legal securities, would be binding, on both sides, in masters as well as servants. They entered the service fully relying on the honor and integrity of those masters that the rates of remuneration sanctioned by the existing practice of Government at the time, and put down in the official lists of pay published under the express authority of the Court of Directors, would be abided by in all good faith; and that the means of subsistence, and finally of returning to their native land on the pledged faith of which they left it for a time, to come to a far distant and unhealthy region, would not be obnoxious to diminution; having as they imagined all those guarantees of permanency as respected incumbents which, with men of honor, are reckoned equally binding with the greatest formalities and securities of law. We can scarcely anticipate in reply to these remarks such a disingenuous sophism as a denial of there existing an implied and understood compact between the Directors of the East India Company and their servants. This would indeed be paltering with us in a double sense; for if it be true that we cannot produce legally formal parchments, signed by the Honorable Court, in attestation of the implied compact which ought to be equally binding on both parties; it may be asked what will plain common sense designate that, *but* a compact and a solemn agreement which requires oaths and legal securities from one party? When such are required from one side, would it not be monstrous to say that there are no counter obligations on the other?

The grievances affecting the Medical Corps are confined to no particular grade, but pervade the whole service, pressing, however, with distressing hardship on the juniors. They are, as briefly as I can state them, as follow :—

The low military rank assigned to Medical officers which has an injurious effect on income and personal comfort, with reference to boat and tent allowance, quarters, subscription to the Military Fund, and prize money.

The low rate of pay for skilful labour of an unremitting character as compared with the scale of remuneration of other classes of the Company's servants.

The abolition of the Medical allowance without a full and fair equivalent for so much of it as formed a portion of (supposed) permanent income.

The low rates of retiring pensions of Surgeons, Superintending Surgeons, and even of Members of the Board, comparatively; and the long term that

Medical men have to serve before they become entitled to them ; putting off the possibility of a return to their Native land to so painfully remote a period that the few who survive the effects of a destructive climate must be aged men before they can retire upon the higher pension, the lower being wholly inadequate as a gentlemanlike provision.

The slowness of promotion, mainly caused by this low rate of pension, and the rule peculiar to the Medical Service alone and preventing its members, on promotion, from retiring at once on the pension of Superintending Surgeon and member of the Board ; until after a considerable period of service in each of those grades, a peculiarity as invidious as it is unjust.

The want of a greater number of grades, making seniority scarcely of any advantage.

The very limited authority permitted to the Medical Board, which, if properly constituted, and consisting of members *selected* for the duties of their office, ought to be consulted on matters affecting the interests and rights of the Medical Service at large. Many, perhaps, may dissent from this, seeing that the Board, 'if all reports be true, have of late years been rather forward in pressing measures disadvantageous to their own service, and recommending the abolition of appointments sanctioned by the Government ; witness for instance, that of 3rd permanent Assistant Surgeon at the General Hospital. Nay, if the Board are not belied, they recommended that the appointment of Surgeon to the Hospital should be abolished too. The reply which these most potent grave and reverend Signiors received on that occasion, will not, I trust, be soon forgotten by them. They should always bear in recollection that abolition and retrenchment is a two edged sword, and may be turned *upwards* as well as *downwards*. Some day or other its sweep may even gash the Board !

I might add to this part of the subject,—but I have no desire, even to appear to wish doing so—as what I have stated is quite sufficient to shew that we do labour under sufficiently serious drawbacks. I now proceed to shew how disproportionately ill off Medical men are in the scale of present and prospective emoluments and pensions, and rank, as compared with Civilians, Military Officers, Military Chaplains and His Majesty's Medical Service.

A writer, ranking with an Assistant Surgeon, from the date of his arrival in Bengal, receives three hundred rupees a month, and has furnished quarters allowed him. The Assistant Surgeon until he joins a full batta station, gets (if I am not mistaken) 170 Rupees a month, and a delectable apartment in the General Hospital, without mat, punkah, chair, table, or glass window sashes ; these being luxuries reserved for a more fortunate class of their fellow servants. Or if all the apartments in the Hospital be engaged, he draws sixty

agnat rupees rent allowance, for which he can hire splendid apartments in Calcutta, where house rent is so remarkably reasonable. He is kept three months at the General Hospital with his hands in his pockets (where he finds nothing) on the same principle that the disciples of Pythagoras had to keep silence for seven years. After thus cooling his heels and imbibing the mysteries of "*do golee do*" after the most approved Oriental fashion, he is appointed to do duty with some King's Regiment say—for the Honorable Company's European Regiment,—but do his allowances improve? Not a jot:—well, getting exceedingly tired of half batta, and being fagged for it like a galley slave, he applies to be appointed to a civil station on the glorious salary of two hundred and seventy rupees a month, (for such, exclusive of certain fund deductions, is, I believe, the net amount)—but no—that would be too, too, much of a good thing. Yes, it would be too much for an accomplished young man who has acquired a finished education in London, Edinburgh and Paris, and is master of the most difficult and responsible of all professions; it would be too presumptuous of him to expect his being appointed to such a good thing as a Civil Station, until he has served two years in India. Any thing else but *that*—the privilege of dosing a Judge and a Collector and the inmates of a Jail Hospital, is of too high and aristocratic a nature to be attained without some degree of probation and apprenticeship! • "Patience sweet Cherub!"

In about a year or sixteen months, the Writer attains the rank of Captain—Oh, I beg pardon, *Factor* is the title he delights in, and enjoys better pay than a Surgeon of twenty-five years standing. Observe too, that he obtains *per saltum* in seventeen months, a rank which the other does not reach for so many years. From what has been stated it appears that the Writer of a week's standing in the eighteenth year of his age is about as well off as an Assistant Surgeon of a dozen years, and the thirty-seventh of his, supposing him to come out in his twenty-third year; and also that the Factor of one month's standing in that grade, and seventeen months in the service, and the twenty-eighth year of his age, say, is better off than the full Surgeon of twenty years' standing and in the forty-third year of his age. The Civilian after some five or six years more becomes a *Major*, or in other words a junior merchant, and at length, after seventeen years' service, retires upon a pension of £1000 per annum, (independent of his savings in lucrative situations), and figures away at Courts of Proprietors, or becomes himself a Director, or purchases an estate in Devonshire or Hampshire, or a villa near town and has his box in the Opera; while the Surgeon, after the same service, may retire on the glorious independence of £190 per annum! with a box furnished by an Undertaker, and an estate of seven feet by three near some dismal cantonment in the interior, or better still, in your Park Street, Chowringhee.

How does the Medical Officer fare as compared with the military? The latter enters the service at fifteen or sixteen, without any previous prepara-

tion beyond the common schooling of other boys, his equals, (I except of course Cadets of the Engineers and Artillery,) and without any other expense to his family, save that of his outfit and passage money. A Medical officer having spent from four to seven years in the study of his most difficult profession, enters the service in his twenty-third or twenty-fourth or even his twenty-fifth year, having expended £1000 on his education, which, in general, he is expected to repay to his family when he can.

Two Lieutenants out of ten of each corps must hold staff situations, with allowances equal to what Assistant Surgeons had with the Medical allowance; and it has been found necessary to limit the number of Officers from each Corps holding appointments on the general staff. There is no such analogy in the Medical Service.

The Military Officer may retire in twenty-eight years at the age of forty-four on £365 per annum. The Medical Officer, after twenty-eight years service, and in the fifty-second year of his age, may retire on £191 per annum!

By the Army List the members of the Medical Board and the Superintending Surgeons, are, I believe, contemporary with Colonels and Lieutenant Colonels, officers respectively entitled to £1,300, and £900 per annum on retirement; that is to say—after more than thirty-three years' service, and in the fiftieth year or thereabouts. The Medical Officer on the other hand, after forty-two years' service, only in the sixty-fourth year of his age ('I wish you good luck of the prize man!') retires on £500 or £700 per annum.

The Military Officer may retire as full Colonel after having served his time for four years on the general staff, and receive various honours and distinctions, to say nothing of the sweets of command.

The highest rank the Medical Officer obtains is that of Colonel (lately conceded, against the grain, on the sugar plum system), and no honours or distinctions whatever—no, not even a medal—and should his means not enable him to return to England after serving his time in the Board he falls back into the rank of Captain, and is commanded by those he formerly commanded.

It has always been (at least so I have understood,) with reference to the expense of their education, and the importance of their after duties, that a more liberal scale of remuneration has hitherto been granted to Civilian, Clergymen and Engineers in this country. Medical men whose preparatory studies and qualifications are equally long, equally laborious, equally arduous and of a painful and responsible character to boot—that does not appertain to the professions mentioned; are surely not unreasonable when they pray for a somewhat corresponding scale of remuneration. Perfect equality with

the other services, they do not want or expect; but a greater degree of conformity in remuneration, considering the many disadvantages they labour under, they certainly consider as their right, and feel that this has been too long most unjustly, not to say tyrannically, withheld from them.

Compared with the Chaplains in the Honourable Company's service, Medical Men suffer great drawbacks in various ways, although there is a strong analogy between them as respects the nature of their education and duties, as well as the period of life at which they enter the service, no less than their relative position in their negative relation to either the Military or Civil service.

The Chaplain arrives in India at about the same age with the Medical man; and after a less expensive education, with the rank of Captain, and the pay of some seven or eight hundred Rupees a month (for I am not quite certain) being upwards of twice the amount of the Medical Officer of the same standing, ranking, however, only as a Lieutenant.

The Medical Man is at considerable expense in fitting himself out for India, and on board ship is ranked as a Cadet.

The Chaplain receives a present of £200 sterling from the Honorable Company as outfit allowance; and on board ship ranks as a Captain.

The Medical Man, after ten years' service, is allowed to go home on furlough, and to receive the pay of a Lieutenant during the period of such furlough.

The Chaplain, after seven years' service, may take his furlough, receiving the pay of Lieutenant Colonel.

The Medical Officer, after twenty years service, including a three years' furlough, may retire on the pension of a Captain, £191 per annum.

The Chaplain after eighteen years service, including a three years furlough, may retire on the pay of Lieutenant Colonel.

I come next to the general disadvantages under which the Honorable Company's Medical Service of Bengal labours compared with His Majesty's Medical Establishment. It is very probable that in several of the points I urge, I may unconsciously commit mistakes. If so, I have simply to observe that such are perfectly unintentional. Exaggeration will do our cause no good, and I have endeavoured to avoid it. *As humanum est errare*, however, it is by no means unlikely that some of my positions may be amenable to having holes picked in them. I would most gladly avoid this if I could, but

the difficulty, owing to my immediate position, of procuring the most minute and accurate information, must plead my apology. If my general outlines are acknowledged to be correct (and I do not think they can be moved) I shall be content.

If then I am rightly informed, Surgeons in the King's Service receive ten shillings a day, lodging, money, rations, coals and candles, an European servant (a private in the regiment), a cheap mess, and wine free from duty. They enter the service without being subject to covenants of any kind, or any expensive outfit. When marching, they are supplied with tent and carriage, except when moving from town to town, in Great Britain, where they are commodiously billeted.

The Medical Officers of His Majesty's Service may exchange from one corps to another, and from one part of the Empire and its Colonies to another. They are not necessitated to subscribe to any fund for orphans or widows; His Majesty having graciously granted annual pensions, royal bounty, and compassionate allowances, which, besides providing for the widows and fatherless children of those who fall in the field, the royal bounty extends to their mothers and sisters. His Majesty's Medical service contains a greater number of grades, and allows higher rank accordingly. The grades of the Honorable Company's Medical Service, are four; viz Member of the Medical Board, Superintending Surgeon, Surgeon, Assistant Surgeon. The highest ranks with a Colonel, the lowest with a Lieutenant. His Majesty's Medical Service, I believe, contains the following grades:—

Director General.
Inspector General of Hospitals.
Inspector.
Deputy Inspector.
Physician to the Forces.
Surgeon to the Forces.
Staff Surgeon.
Ditto Assistant Surgeon.
Surgeon.
Assistant Surgeon.
Hospital Assistant.

The highest ranks as a Major General, the lowest as an Ensign.

I come now to the disadvantages under which the Medical Service of Bengal labours, as respects each particular class, and I naturally commence with the

ASSISTANT SURGEON.

For the first twelve or fifteen years, he has nothing but a bare subsistence to expect, and should he have married, or contracted debts on the faith of

His former allowances being continued to him, his case is indeed miserable enough, and he looks upon the prospect of obtaining even a moderate competence as quite out of the question. Assistant Surgeons, or at least many of them, would never surely have entered the service for a mere subsistence. If *fag* and bare *kana peena* were always to be the order of the day, they might have acquired the same nearer home, or in a more congenial clime. They entered the service, in fact, preferring, what they supposed would be its *immediate* advantages, to the prospect of a certain, though tardy, competence elsewhere. It is also notorious that along with the confident expectation of present advantages, the hope of a sure provision for the necessities of broken health and premature old age (too often the natural consequences of the pernicious climate of the East;) was the great temptation that led them fifteen thousand miles from their native land.

A Military Assistant Surgeon's allowances in charge of a corps, since the abolition of the Medical contract, are inferior, not only to those of the Adjutant and Quarter Master of the Regiment, (who, God knows, are not overpaid,) but to those of Veterinary Surgeon! so that the duties of the officers mentioned are considered more arduous, more noble in themselves, and of more importance to the state than those of Assistant Surgeons having medical charge of a whole regiment, women and children, and sometimes camp followers included.

An officer in charge of two companies or more, draws equally for both; while a Surgeon or Assistant Surgeon, if he should chance to have the charge of two corps in addition to his own, draws only for one; so that the principle of giving additional emolument for increased labour seems to be entirely overlooked. *That*, however, is rather a fashionable feature of polity now a days, when toil, like virtue, would appear, in high places, to be considered as its own reward.

I am not unaware indeed that at the earnest representation of the Medical Board, Government condescended to modify its first order, so far as to grant an allowance of ten rupees for each one hundred men (one fifth of what a Lieutenant draws for one company) in addition to his own charge, provided that charge is not *less* than eight hundred men, or at the rate of about six pice per man for monthly medical attendance—where he formerly received eight annas. Though aware that this modification was adopted, as a kind of a miserable bit of sugar plum to somewhat allay the nauseousness of the *abolition dose*, yet it has not, that I am aware of, been published in General Orders, but circulated in a comparatively private manner to the Medical Staff of Corps through Superintending Surgeons of divisions, so that it can scarcely be considered as having the authority of an order in council, promulgated through the usual official channels to the army at large; but I may be mistaken.

The pay of an Assistant Surgeon now does not exceed that of an European Mechanic, or a Shop-keeper's Assistant in Calcutta, so that, in fact, it would perhaps have been better for poor Assistant Surgeons and have saved their friends a great deal of unnecessary trouble, if they had come out to India as Adventurers, as Mechanics, or as Clerks, instead of following the wretched fortune which is now the lot of a learned but degraded profession.

It is a very hard grievance upon the Assistant Surgeons, that where they formerly received two hundred rupees, or two hundred and fifty a month certain, they now only get sixty rupees in addition to their personal pay. Assistant Surgeons again who have entered the service since 1823, are not entitled to draw palankeen allowance, —which is also a great hardship. The fact is, they *ought* to be allowed a horse and a buggy allowance. Fancy a poor devil going backwards and forwards from bungalow to bungalow, in such a place, for instance, as Cawnpore, during a hot weather day in a palankeen!

In 1821, an addition of one hundred rupees a month was made to the salaries of Civil Assistant Surgeons at the recommendation of the Medical Board (at times the Board *did* good by stealth, and blushed to find it fame!). This, however, was reckoned too good, and was cancelled. The situation of the Military Assistant Surgeon is hard,—very hard,—but that of the Civil Assistant Surgeon is infinitely worse. Nothing astonishes me so much as that any gentleman should volunteer for such wretchedness. Why do they not all resign and return to a more dignified position by joining the Army? There, at least, they will be surrounded by equals. But at a civil station, the Assistant Surgeon is a regular nondescript; an Ornithoryncus Paradoxus. Like the frog in the fable, he is panting and puffing to keep up something of an appearance analogous to that of those whose flag he is, but at length some day bursts in the process; or, in other words, his circumstances become irretrievably embarrassed, and he in despair begs to be placed at the disposal of the Commander-in-Chief. But then he has private practice.—Oh, the tempest in a tea cup, the whale on a trencher!—fancy after a twelve months slaving attendance on a big wig in the receipt of fifty thousand rupees a year, receiving a fee of sicca rupees three hundred!

But again,—he can trade. To be sure he can; and he can fly—if you but furnish him with wings; yea, he can move the globe which we inherit, if you give him a fulcrum; and he can trade, if you can but teach him the all important art of the transmutation of metals, or some other secret process, by which he can raise the *funds* necessary for the purpose.

It is deeply to be regretted by all who take an interest in our profession, that such as it is in India, the circumstance appears to have been altogether overlooked of the medical being not a stationery, but a continually progressive science, and that the conscientious practitioner cannot rest satisfied with the knowledge he has acquired, but must constantly endeavour to attain more, and keep pace with the rapid march of the profession at the great centres of human intelligence, Paris and London, &c. &c. To do

this he ought to have free and full access at all times to the best Medical Periodicals of the day, and such important single works as from time to time appear. Hitherto it was one of the beneficial results of the old system that Assistant Surgeons were able to afford this most necessary expense, and even to render themselves conversant with the sayings and doings in collateral and congenial physical sciences.

The General Order abolishing the medical allowance, has, generally speaking, put it out of the power of Assistant Surgeons to continue any longer subscribing to professional or any other works; of this a more convincing proof need not be adduced than the fact of many who were members of the Calcutta Medical and Physical Society and of the Asiatic Society, having withdrawn their names solely and avowedly on the ground that they could no longer contribute to the support of these valuable institutions in consequence of the ruinous reduction of their income.

Convinced, as I am, of the certain deterioration of the professional character, that must be the effect of a poverty so sordid as that which renders scientific and intellectual improvement inconsistent with the rigid economy rendered necessary by a suddenly and largely reduced income, I am sure that your readers cannot contemplate the prospect of a deeply humiliated and distressed body but with feelings of deep regret.

I next come to the SURGEONS. When the Assistant Surgeon has arrived at the rank of Surgeon, his situation certainly becomes improved. He has the advantage of a small increase of pay, tent allowance and gratuity, and the difference between a Captain's and Major's batta. To retire upon his pension, however, after serving his seventeen years in India, is impossible; seeing the utter impracticability of his having been able to add any thing to that munificent price for the best years of his life, by any savings from allowances, scarcely afforded him previous to promotion, above subsistence. The prospect between him and the next step, that of Superintending Surgeon, is a dead level. "Blow winds and crack his cheeks" he can only be a Surgeon and he can only draw a Surgeon's pay. *Why* should he exert himself? Zeal or no zeal, he has bread and cheese before him, and beyond that he cannot go for the next fifteen years. True, he sees the Cadets who entered the service with him passing him as Majors and Lieutenant Colonels, and he sighs at thinking that he must continue only a Surgeon with the rank of Captain. It is not until his thirtieth or thirty-second year of service that he can expect to enter upon the enjoyment of a good salary; so that he commences to save some little money at the hopeful age of sixty or sixty-three!

To demonstrate that the Medical man is not sufficiently rewarded, and that upon the principle laid down by writers on political economy* he does not

* In proportion to the expensiveness of a machine, ought to be the price of its labour. It has justly been observed by Adam Smith, (*Wealth of Nations*) that "a man educated at the expence of much labour and time, to any of those employments which require extraordinary dexterity and skill, may be compared to an expen-

receive a reasonable or proper per centage upon the money sunk in his education &c.—Let us suppose that the medical man at the age of sixteen comes out as a Cadet (or better still, had studied at Sandhurst Military College, and earned a commission in His Majesty's Army), and that instead of appropriating his little capital in qualifying himself for the medical profession he had laid out the whole amount in Calcutta at compound interest; suppose that for the six or seven years beyond the Cadet's entrance into the service which he passed in England, his education, including valuable books, and the expense of outfit, &c. &c., altogether amounted to £1,500 sterling: this money would give at interest in twenty-two years, (the nominal term of a military man's servitude), a principal sum of £4,200 which, if either sunk in a life annuity or retained at interest with the advantage of bequeathing the principal to heirs, would, with a Captain's pension, afford a much greater yearly income than the Medical Officer at present receives after serving twice twenty-two years, and attaining the highest rank to which he is eligible. From all this, the inference is obvious;—that the Medical Officer serves no less than twenty-eight years in this country, without being able to retire upon a pension more than equal to one-third of that which might have been derived from the supposed application of his own property.

CAVALRY SURGEONS, by an order of the Supreme Government, issued some four or five years ago, were deprived of their Cavalry allowances, in case of their taking leave of absence, however urgent the occasion might be, while any other officer in the regiment, under similar circumstances continued to enjoy the same; whether this rule still holds good, I am not quite sure.

The very words in which the Regulations of the Court of Directors on the subject of Surgeons retiring from the service are drawn up in, are calculated to mislead and deceive; and they do mislead and deceive young men before their arrival in this country, as well as their friends. Thus, for instance, runs one of the Regulations:—

“A Member of the Medical Board, who has been in that situation not less than two years, and not less than twenty years in India, including three years for one furlough, is permitted to retire from the service, and allowed £500 per annum.”

give machine; the work which he labours to perform, it must be expected, over and above the usual wages of common labour, will replace to him the whole expense of his education with at least the ordinary profits of an equally valuable capital. It must do this too in a reasonable time, regard being had to the very uncertain duration of human life, in the same manner as to the more certain duration of the machine. The difference between the wages of skilled labour, and that of common labour is founded in this principle.” Medical men applying this reasoning, may justly urge that as they entered the service later in life than Military Officers and Civilians, and as their education is more expensive and laborious than that of the former, and not less so than that of Civilians or Chaplains; they should not be placed upon such a mortifying scale compared with either as they are.

Is it not the tendency of this regulation to make believe that Surgeons after about twenty years' residence in India may get into the Board? By Jove! exclaim the friends of the young Medical aspirant in England, "here's a glorious service, and in twenty years hence, or twenty-two at farthest you may return to your native country on a pension of £500 per annum, besides what you may have saved from your munificent pay and allowances, and batta, and all that sort of thing,—be off directly to India!"

There is no instance, on record, that I am aware of, save from sickness, or being made a Lord of and succeeding to a large landed property, two events rather common in the life of a Surgeon,—there is no instance, I say, with such exceptions, of a Surgeon having retired on his pension after his seventeen years' service in India. In the army, however, an officer within twenty-three years' service has often obtained his promotion to a Majority or Lieutenant Colonelcy, and after that period of actual service in India, become entitled to retire on his full pay of sixteen and twenty shillings a day: whereas a Surgeon, after perhaps thirty years' service, is entitled only to the retiring pension of Captain, and has no chance of promotion to the higher grades under thirty or thirty-four years' service in India. A pension of £190 per annum, therefore, is considered a sufficient one for the Medical Officer after thirty years' hard employment in an unhealthy climate, and under Military restrictions, without any of the honors and privileges of military and political rank and distinction.

Valetudinarian Military Officers when disabled for native military duties, are eligible to various local appointments yielding a comfortable subsistence; as Invalid Battalions, Garrison Appointments, Pay-masterships, of Pensions; and, in the higher ranks, to the command of Provincial Corps and Invalid Thannas. The non-existence of some analogous provision in the Medical Department is to be regretted, as it compels men of broken health, and impaired constitutions to remain in the performance of active duties to which they are scarcely equal, and the constant endeavour of fulfilling which shortens their lives.

The grievances under which the Seniors of the service, viz. the MEMBERS OF THE MEDICAL BOARD and SUPERINTENDING SURGEONS labour, are so amalgamated as not require separate consideration. Superintending Surgeons rank now with Lieutenant Colonels, and the Senior Member of the Board can attain no higher rank than the nominal one of Colonel; whereas Military Officers of the same standing in the service as Surgeons of twenty-five years' have become Majors and Lieutenant Colonels, and those who entered the service at the same time with Superintending Surgeons, are Colonels, and, if I am not mistaken, Brigadiers. I am not aware that the Honorable Court had the slightest intention of conferring a higher rank than that of Lieutenant Colonel on the Members of the Board, until the glaring anomaly caused by the appointment of a King's Inspector and Deputy Inspector in India

arose. For six or seven years, the Court permitted this humiliating anomaly that, while the King's Inspector enjoyed the rank of full Colonel, the Senior Member of the Board had only that of Lieutenant Colonel, so that it followed, as a matter of course, that the former on all occasions of official collision must have assumed and exercised all the rights of the higher rank. It was not until this was urged and re-urged on the Honorable Court, that they at length gave their tardy consent to the performance of an act of justice, by putting the Member of the Board and the King's Inspector on more equal terms—but in this perhaps, they were thwarted by the Horse guards influence.

That the Medical Service does not possess that capacity of remuneration usually supposed to be inherent in it by superficial observers, may easily be credited when I mention the following simple fact:—Mr. Meek, after serving forty-six years in India and being a Member of the Board, was unable to retire to his native land, and now holds only the rank of a Surgeon or Captain, though several of his juniors have served on the General Staff of the Army. The late Mr. Gibb, after serving forty-five years in India, was at the age of seventy-two, glad to be permitted to serve another year in the Board; and had he lived to return to his native land, his income arising from his pension, and all his savings would not have amounted to more than £500 per annum.

The alternative of retiring on a pension greatly disproportionate to their protracted period of service, or being obliged to do duty under those whom they had previously controlled in the higher departments of the Medical Service, must be bitter and humiliating in the extreme to the senior class. I can scarcely bring myself to believe that such a degrading anomaly was ever seriously contemplated as likely to happen by the Court of Directors. They laboured, I presume, under a prevalent but delusive impression, that by the time a Medical Officer has served his time in the Board, he becomes independent in his circumstances and is able to retire on a fortune. Alas! it is not so. Accordingly no provision was made for the supposed impossible case, of a Medical Officer, after having served his time in the Board, being necessitated by the inadequacy of his means to remain in the service. That supposed impossible case, however, has occurred in the instance of the worthy and venerable Mr. Meek. It might have also occurred in the case of Mr. Gibb, and will, I doubt not, if the anomaly be not provided against, occur again and again. Could such a thing, I ask, happen in the Army, as a General on the Staff, retrograding, without any fault or demerit save that of *long service*, to the grade of a Captain? Assuredly not: why then should the Medical Corps be exclusively subject to such a degradation? As respects the fitness of things the seniors might as well fall back again into the rank of Assistant Surgeons for the one is as absurd as the other. Fancy an Assistant Surgeon of seventy-two!

Having thus, as well as other avocations would admit, endeavoured to point out the *present state* of the Medical Service of Bengal, I will now in

conclusion suggest a few modifications which I think would materially improve its prospects.

1. The rate of house-rent and pay to Assistant Surgeons on their arrival in the country to be increased.

2. The one hundred rupees per mensem recommended to be added to the salary of Assistant Surgeons at civil stations, by the Medical Board in 1829, and afterwards cancelled, to be restored, and a reasonable compensation to be made them for all extra charges.

3. Assistant Surgeons in all situations, not in medical charge, to be allowed the full batta of their rank.

4. Assistant Surgeons in every situation to be allowed palankeen and horse allowances of (say) fifty rupees a month.

5. A full and fair equivalent to be made to Assistant Surgeons in medical charge of corps, or detachment, for the medicine allowance abolished; seeing that the sum now drawn for such does not come up to that character and the nature of the arrangement to be the same in all places, and not to be affected, as now, by half batta localities.

6. Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons ordered on unexpected contingencies of a public nature to some other station or charge away from their own, to be allowed, in addition to mere travelling charges, the full amount of what they would draw with their own proper charge.

7. Assistant Surgeons and Surgeons to be divided into classes according to Seniority; and their allowances to augment as they advance in classification.

8. An increase of rank and grade to be granted to the department generally, to be regulated upon the basis of His Majesty's Medical Department.

9. Medical Officers under the rank of Superintending Surgeon after twenty years' actual service in India, to be entitled to retire on a pension of fifteen shillings per diem, being the maximum retiring pension allowed to a Regimental Surgeon in His Majesty's service.

10. Some additional pay or personal allowance to be granted to Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons in India after stated periods of service on the principle adopted, I believe, in His Majesty's service.

11. Deputy Superintending Surgeons to be appointed with the rank of Major.

12. Some measure to be adopted to prevent the anomaly pointed out in Mr. Meek's case.

13. Individuals of every class to be allowed to retire on the retiring pension of that grade immediately on promotion.

14. The pension of Superintending Surgeons to be increased.

15. The junior member of the Medical Board not to be burthened in addition to his own duties with those of Superintending Surgeon of the Pre-

sidency, but an independent Superintending Surgeon to be regularly appointed for that service.

16. Situations always held by Medical men in this country, on the leave of absence or sickness of the incumbent, to be filled by a Medical man. Such for instance as the Botanic Garden, in which a Member of Council, during the absence of the incumbent for three years, officiated! By a parity of reasoning, I hope, some Medical man will in future be appointed to officiate during sickness or absence for a Member of Council.

17. That no measure affecting the Medical Department, its constitution or emoluments, be adopted by Government or the Honorable the Court of Directors without a reference to a General Committee of Officers of rank; a third of the Committee to consist of Medical Officers but not of one grade.

18. That Medical situations in England, in the gift of the India Company, should in future on vacancies occurring, be bestowed exclusively on Individuals properly qualified for the task, who have retired from the service. I mean such situations as the London Medical Examinership now held by Dr. Chambers who can know nothing practically of Indian Diseases, &c.

I dare say in spite of myself, some errors have crept into this long paper. If there be such, they are perfectly unintentional on my part. Perhaps, it would be as well if you were to submit a clean proof to some Medical friend at the Presidency, with the view of making such corrections as he may point out, and I beg that if any friend should undertake such a task, you would make whatever alterations he may deem right. By and by, I doubt not, that you will have much abler pens or the subject of Medical grievances and rights than that of your friend

Meerut, July, 1833.

C———.

MILITARY FORCES OF THE CIVILIZED WORLD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EAST INDIAN UNITED SERVICE JOURNAL.

MR. EDITOR,—The following Table may be interesting to some of your readers. It has been compiled at some little pains, from the best and only sources open to me just now, but I hope it may be found sufficiently correct to give a general view of the Military forces of the civilised world. Its most distinguishing feature will at once excite remark. I allude to the very small body of troops required at this moment for the Military duties of India, being at the rate of about one soldier only to four hundred and fifty of the population, while that of Russia is nearly one in fifty. Even the unmilitary country of America possesses one regular soldier for every hundred of its population, while every tenth individual would seem to be a militia-man and liable to be called out on emergency. No wonder the American inn-keepers and farmers are Captains and Colonels, and that these and other military titular distinctions are so conspicuous in the dramatis personæ of every group brought before us by our Fearons and Trollopes.

- The inexpensiveness, comparatively speaking, of the Indian soldiery, will also attract observation. The table has not been able to exhibit the military charges of the European States, where publicity in these matters is not yet much approved of by the unreformed potentates of the continent. But unless there is a mistake in the use I have made of the extract from the parliamentary returns of Great Britain, it would appear that each fighting man at home, with rations pensions and all equipments, cost the public in 1830, the average sum of about £78 per annum; while in India, the soldier, including in the same way officer and private, and taking also European and Native, cost the Company only the sum of about £44 per annum.

Some curious facts arise out of this enquiry. Casting the eye over the map of British India, it seems incredible the long line of exposed frontier, frequently without a single regiment of the line, or even a scattered detachment of sepoy. At the present time, for instance, there are positively no troops from the post at Jumalpoore on the Berhampooter river, to the Goruckpore District, with the exception only of a single Battalion of Native Infantry with two guns at Mullye, being a line of frontier, situated between the British Territories and those of Nepaul, once our inveterate enemy,—of full four hundred miles. Our nearest other military Stations to this extended line are, those on the Ganges from Berhanipore to Benares, which could not spare, on an emergency, a thousand firelocks. This speaks well for our present relations with the Goorkahs; and for the tranquil state of the Dinagepore, Rungpore and Purneah Provinces, which in the olden time gave no little trouble to the native Subah at Moorshedabad.

MILES.

P. S. Since inditing the above a very able and lively writer in the *Hurkaru* newspaper, calling himself *DIODENES STUBBS*, has adopted the same view as that exhibited in the concluding paragraph, and used it conclusively in argument against a public writer under the signature of *A FRIEND TO INDIA*. The latter had asserted that insurrection only was kept down in any part of India by the actual presence of our troops. Your readers will not object to my begging you to reprint a portion of *DIODENES STUBBS*'s most amusing refutation of this idle effort of an alarmist to depreciate our rule of India. It is peculiarly borne out by the Table which I had prepared before the appearance of the various discussions in the daily papers.

“Now my excellent fellow voyager, we have journeyed from the time we left Patna some hundred miles through a densely peopled and a fertile country down the principal river of Eastern Bengal and amongst other great rivers. The banks of great rivers have at all times been, and for obvious reasons, selected, in conquered countries for such Military posts as were supposed necessary to keep the people in subjection; now most excellent, *FRIEND TO INDIA*, have you, from the moment you left the handful of heroes at Bhagulpore, have you seen the glitter of one bayonet or the glance of one single pair of “Regimental small clothes?” Yet forsooth, the people are only kept from insurrection by the actual presence of our troops? Pooh! pooh! free your mind from cant my friend, and believe me, that the

ten or fifteen millions composing the population of the lands we have traversed, are as much kept down by the actual presence of troops, as you are kept from snoring at night, which I must say you do to an extent that is inconvenient in a small boat, by apprehension of the Lord Chancellor.

"Yet if your theory were true any where, it must be true in these regions. Bengal, Behar and Orissa, have been longer than any other portion of the Gangetic nation in British possession, *consequently*, according to the NINNYHAMMER school, as British Government has always been *mis-government*, they have been the longest mis-governed, *therefore* they must be the most discontented; *ergo* the actual presence of troops is more required to keep down insurrection which is not kept down *any where* without their presence Q. E. D.

"FRIEND TO INDIA, could you travel seven hundred miles on the principal rivers of any country in the world, except the United States, without meeting any greater number of soldiers than one weak Militia Corps? Can you find me a political body under any form of government, and composed of nearly forty millions of members, where the men who bear arms are in no greater proportion than about one to every two thousand of the community. Can you discover in all history, ancient or modern, except for a very short period after the conquest of South America by the Spaniards, a single instance of a conquering, and a foreign people holding a country in a state of misery and mis-government for more than fifty years, for so say the NINNYHAMMERS, with such means? Taking the old Provinces, the Dewany, the longest mis-governed, therefore, *of course*, the most discontented;—Taking those, I believe, I am correct in saying, that there is not a single Military Station, or a single regular soldier, in any of the following Zillahs, or to speak after a more heroic fashion, counties, viz.; Burdwan, Khoorda, Balasore, Jessore, Backergunge, Sherpore, Mymensing, Nuddea, Bhcerboom, Bugoorah, Rajahacc, Rungpore, Dinagepore, Purneah, Noakolly, Tipperah, Fureedpore, Maldah, Moughyr, (only Invalids), Behar, Patna, Tirhoot, Shahabad, or Sarun. In short, out of the thirty-five divisions which compose the old, mis-governed, mal-treated Bengal, Behar and Orissa, there are only seven, in which the nose of Brutus or President Jefferson himself could be offended by the savor of a soldier. And what is the amount of the force which is to keep down an oppressed and indignant multitude nearly forty million strong? Why, if the Blue Book deceive me not, fifteen regiments of infantry; the Artillery at Dum-Dum, and that famous and potent corps, the entire strength of which I never see without thinking of the allied cavalry at the battle of Leipzig, viz. the Governor General's Body Guard.

"And now FRIEND TO INDIA, that we may avoid all mistakes, I will quote your very words and leave the world, yea even "the chief of womanhood," the *India Gazette* herself, to decide how far you are borne out in your hardy and confident assertion, by the state of the richest and most populous portion of the British Indian Empire, Bengal, Behar and Orissa. "It is universally acknowledged that the constant presence of our troops alone prevents disturbances or a plain English—insurrection." Letter of FRIEND TO INDIA, No. XVI in the *India Gazette* of the 19th April.

"In twenty-eight out of the thirty-five districts which compose by far the most wealthy, by far the most fertile, and by far the most populous portion of the British Empire in Asia, there is positively not a single soldier of any description. Truly this is a most original method of preventing "disturbances or a plain English insurrection," by "the constant presence of our troops" at least so thinks DROGENES STUBBS."

PRESENT STATE AND FUTURE PROSPECTS OF THE BENGAL ARMY. .

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EAST INDIAN UNITED SERVICE JOURNAL.

MR. EDITOR,—As a member and well wisher of the Bengal Army, I hailed with sincere satisfaction the appearance of No. I. of the *East Indian United Service Journal*. That it will be generally supported by the whole Indian Army, can hardly be doubted, indeed it would say little for the character and common sense of this fine large army, if it did not afford liberal support to a Journal of so useful a nature, and so devoted to its interests, especially at a time like the present, when its future destiny is under discussion, and when a periodical of the kind is even necessary were it only to uphold the interests and character of the Company's Army against the insidious attacks of that Tory Journal, the ci-devant *United Service Journal* published in London.

Your Journal being published in Calcutta, too, will make it a more copious, immediate, and authentic record of all military matters connected with this country, than could be the case with one published in London, however able or indefatigable the editor might be.

I trust, therefore, you will meet with the support you certainly merit from the armies of the three Presidencies, in this, your public spirited attempt, to uphold their interests, and that those who may hitherto have taken in that other Military Journal, so improperly (as far as we are concerned) designated *United Service*, will forthwith transfer their patronage to you, and which, as men in general are not fond of paying for their own vituperation, it is naturally to be expected all those appertaining to the army of Hon'ble John will do.

Having thus premised, I will now at once proceed to the consideration of the subject denoted in the heading of this letter. To speak then of the "present state of the Bengal Army." As regards its numerical strength, with reference to the duties it has to perform, and the contingent ones that may (and in a country like this are likely) at any moment of time to arise, it is undeniably totally inadequate. Of this fact the state of our own provinces within the last two years and the numerous miserable shifts the great government of this mighty empire have of late been put to, such as prohibiting small escorts to offices travelling, hiring chokeedars to take care of public military buildings and officers in the very heart of a large captonment, making doors with padlocks, affixing bells to arms to save two or three sentries, *cum multis aliis*, afford to the most sceptical ample proof. This too in spite of the troops rendered disposable by the recent abandonment of a principal station, Keitah. To any thinking man who seriously considers the tenure by which alone we hold this country, the fickleness and fondness for change inherent in the native character, owing

to which any impostor can at any time without even funds, raise and keep together (so long as he indulges them in plunder) almost any number of followers, horse and foot; the policy or rather justice and necessity of affording employment to the large surplus military population of India; the very little affection (notwithstanding all the efforts of Government,) borne to our Civil Courts and Institutions, extending not unnaturally even to our Civil Officers,—not so very astonishing, by the bye, in a nation so essentially military as Hindostan; the jealousy and ill concealed hatred of nearly all the Native Chiefs, many of whom have been deprived of their territory, either in whole or part, and *all* of their independence and high consequence;—the prospect of serious commotions on the other side of the Sutlege immediately on the demise of its present ruler, an event, considering his age, as combined with his dissipated life, and eternal warfare with one chief or the other, likely ere long, and in all probability very suddenly, to take place, and the necessity of our having an army at disposal immediately to profit by it, for the double purpose of preventing the Russians, nominally the Shah of Persia, from doing so, and of extending our own frontier to that strong river line marked out by nature, together with many other considerations of equal moment,—the supineness and self-confidence of this Government in running such vast risks for the present wretched purpose of saving a few rupees, will afford matter of intense astonishment! Thus, however, it is, and in defiance of all past experience of its bad policy, such I fear it will continue, so long as the Government in this country is so minutely controlled by a Court sitting at the distance of half the globe, not composed of statesmen, but of wealthy merchants, whose sole thoughts seem ever to have been taken up in keeping the proprietors in good humour, by declaring future dividends and thereby ensuring their own re-election.

A wise and prudent policy would seem to recommend a very considerable increase to our present Native Army; the Military Force in the country having undoubtedly been very considerably weakened by the disbanding of the Provincial Battalions, and that the increase should be made by giving additional regiments of the present, or even less strength, as easier kept in good order, than larger, affording a more disposable force that could be dispersed all over the country without splitting regiments into detachments, and above all, a larger nucleus for any sudden increase both as to quickness of recruiting, drilling and equipping, &c.

The next consideration is,—the present state of the officers of this army, than which truly nothing can well be more deplorable; never, not even in 1780 was it so bad. There are at the present moment Captains of thirty years standing, whose contemporaries are Field Officers,—some Lieutenant Colonels,—without a chance of promotion;—Lieutenants and Brevet Captains of twenty-two years, and Ensigns of upwards of 8 years though none of them were ever supernumerary Cadets, and all except the Ensigns have

participated in the advantages of the new organization of 1824, and of several increases! What then, let me ask, is likely to be the fate of those unfortunate young gentlemen who have been two and three years in the country and still remain supernumerary? It is positively disheartening to think of it. But the more it is thought of, and the sooner it is brought to the notice of those in authority the better.

What, it may be asked, is the cause of this? The answer, in my opinion, is to be found in the reductions which have taken place, and the present formation of the army. It was foreseen and foretold in 1824 when this formation was made, what it must inevitably lead to, and though the entire army was then, as nearly as practicable, equalised, yet it has even in this short space turned out exactly as foreseen.

That its state as to promotion must continue equally irregular, so long as this unfair system exists, is not to be doubted.

Previous to, and till 1828, this army had every now and then the aid of some increase or new organisations, which tended to accelerate promotion, in particular of the unfortunate, and thereby, in some degree, preserve the just equilibrium of an army avowedly of seniority. It was besides on a different and juster footing, being divided into corps twice the size of the present, which of itself alone, rendered promotion something more equal.

It may be difficult to offer any suggestion for altering and improving this injudicious system, and there may be objections to almost any plan, but I certainly consider it would be beneficial and wise measure if regiments were again formed of two battalions which need not change the present strength of officers in each, for except in rendering the promotion of European officers more fair and equal, they would be, as they always were, the same as distinct regiments. Other benefits would attend this plan, such as enabling officers more readily by exchanging to the other battalion to get on the staff, and thereby affording Government a wider scope for selection, or if unhappy or uncomfortable in one battalion to get removed to the other; or if it was declared by Government that the whole army should be equalised periodically, and every seventh or tenth year, (say,) no very great number of cases of extreme supercession could take place, and every officer might then look, as his right in an army constituted like this, to attaining the rank of a Field Officer in some reasonable period. The officers of each regiment would of course take their chance for bad or ill luck between the periodical equalizations, whilst those who might be unfortunate would have the consolation of knowing that their misery could not last above a certain time. In this there not only would be nothing unfair, but nothing new; as this army, has more than once undergone the process of new organization, the last time in 1824. As an army of strict seniority, however, it is

obviously unjust, as well as cruel, to leave it as it is. In a service of seniority, as the term implies, officers are supposed to rise equally, according to their length of servitude, and in every other seniority service, do so. In this, with respect to the officers of the infantry and cavalry branches of the army, they most clearly do not now do so, and till some plan or arrangement is introduced to remedy the defects of the present small corps system, never can. Old systems have been changed, why not this, which is of no long standing, but of long enough to *prove* that it is not calculated for a seniority service? In a service of this kind, where no man can help himself forward in promotion, it is the particular and bounden duty of Government to consider the interests of all, and render equal justice to all, which is not done by persevering in any system found to work unfairly and more after the fashion of a gambling or lottery concern than any thing else.

Brevet rank, it may perhaps be urged, would be a remedy for this cruel state of things, for the bitter supercession so many deserving old officers are undergoing:—So it in some degree certainly would, but only in a small degree. This even however is not given, except to subalterns; they indeed do get their Brevet of Captains, but their senior officers, the Captains, are left altogether unguarded in this vital point. Why this should be, it is indeed difficult to say. A reference was, it is rumoured, made some years ago to the Court of Directors on this subject by the present Government, recommending the promotion to Major by Brevet of all officers after a certain length of service upon the same principle as exists in respect to subalterns, but negatived by the liberal and never-sufficiently-to-be-extolled worthies composing the Court. Why, upon what principle, it might perhaps puzzle them to explain! most probably, however, because they did not properly understand the subject, as is unfortunately but too frequently the case with them in Military matters, and which unhappily for their Military Servants they never condescend to enquire of them about, but when they do enquire at all it is from the horse guards! the evil effects of which, we frequently deeply feel. They ought to have some military adviser well acquainted with the army, and they have one nominally in Colonel Salmond their Military Secretary! but he is much too old, his time has gone bye, and he is no longer fit for the situation. He should be pensioned, and another appointed; and just at present they could get a particularly fit and qualified man for the appointment in our late Adjutant-General, Colonel Fagan. From the manner in which the Court of Directors always treat their servants (military ones at any rate) when they go to England, it is, I imagine, deemed *infra dig* to have any thing to say with them! Strange this! The King of Great Britain does not so behave to his Military Servants! As, however, old servants, having earned it, are entitled to the consideration of their employers, the absolute necessity of doing something for many old and deserving officers still, unhappily for themselves, in the grade of Captain, clearly indicates the policy and propriety of the Local Government making a second and more vigor-

ous attempt to shew our worthy masters the impolicy, cruelty, and injustice of their any longer delaying to press the subject on the notice of His Majesty's Ministers. The present ministry too, and the present chairman are much more favorable to this army than the last ; so that the time also appears favorable for bringing the case forward. The only argument I have ever heard against this is, that it would cause the supercession of king's officers, and would consequently (as every proposal for the benefit of this army generally is) be strenuously opposed at the horse guards. I do not comprehend this ; the two armies are so distinct, and so differently constituted, that I cannot but consider every thing proposed for the amelioration of the condition of the exiled officers of this army, being thus immediately considered not with reference to its abstract necessity or justice, but merely with reference to the effect it may have on the other, when no such consideration is ever evinced towards this army, when the case is reversed, as most unjust. Let both stand on their own constitutions, and neither interfere with the other. Although the one is called, by way of distinction, the Army of the Crown, and the other, for a different reason, perhaps, that of the Company, are they not both in point of fact equally the armies of the state ? Does not the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and the King in Council also take upon themselves the duty of legislating for the Company's Army ? and does not this alone prove that the Company's Army is also the Army of England ? This question however might be set asleep by simply conferring the same boon on His Majesty's Officers in this country ; and as it is done with their Subaltern Officers, why should it not be likewise done with their Captains ?

Another aid this army formerly had, and now no longer has, was the Provincial Battalions, the commands of which, as being a comfortable provision for old worn out officers, induced many to invalid and thereby accelerated promotion.

There is now no outlet or method of providing for officers who from age or infirmities are no longer calculated for the active line of the profession, but who (from slowness in their promotion or other causes) have not the means of retiring. In every other army in the world there are certain appointments set aside for old and disabled officers : none requires it more than this ; and it would be but an act of justice if government was to take this into its serious consideration, as it is not only a great hardship on individuals, but on the army generally, the efficiency of which is injured by the presence of such officers, and its promotion retarded.

The Grand Want, as it seems to me, in this army is, its having no representative or channel of direct communication with the Government and Court of Directors, placed in a sufficiently important and independent situation to bring to the due notice of Government or the Hon'ble Court its wants, and represent its manifold grievances. As it is considered right to

have a King's Officer for its Commander in Chief, though one of its own, it is to be presumed, would answer equally well, there should be a Military Member of Council at each Presidency taken from the Company's Army at that Presidency, an officer of a certain standing, and character (no matter his rank, for that could be given him on nomination to the council) well acquainted with the army, its wants, desires, &c. &c. The Commander-in-Chief at each Presidency, it is true, has a seat, but being an officer of another army, cannot be thought, and indeed experience has so proved, a very efficient advocate for that army, as it is but natural to suppose he will feel more inclined to advocate the cause of the army to which he himself belongs, and of which he knows more, than that of which he is not a member, knows little or nothing, and with which all intercourse will, after the short term of four years' cease. This, let me assure you, is no small want either; so much the contrary, that until it is in some way remedied, this army never can hope to have its representations or wants properly attended to, or even justice done it in cases where it happens to come into contact with the Royal Auxiliary Army of India. Had this army had such a representative to call attention to, and advocate its cause, is it probable that we should now, at this time of day, and after all our services, suffer the *uselessly invidious*, and monstrously unjust deprivation of our commission of passing the Cape of Good Hope?—the next to entire want of the honors, so grateful to a soldier, in the gift of our Sovereign?—the galling inferiority in our *comparative rank* (as it is somewhat facetiously called,) with the Officers of the Civil Service?—the unfeeling neglect evinced in not allowing (as is usual in other armies) some favorable method of remittance to England?—that our Lieutenant Colonels would have been superseded and a King's Officer *thus promoted*, put into the command of Agra?—Or that such a vast disproportion of commands would always be given to King's Officers on all occasions of service, where either honor or profit is to be gained?—for a glorious instance in exemplification of which vide Bhurtpore! the number of Company's and King's Troops there, with the number of Generals, Brigadiers, &c. of the former and latter services, with the additional fact of a King's Major General, belonging to the Madras Presidency, having been brought up all the way by dawk from Calcutta to command a division, whilst at the same time a Company's Lieutenant General, one of the very few of our officers decorated with the insignia of one of the higher, though not the highest, grades of the Bath, and in Command of a Division of the Army close to the scene of action, from which a considerable part of the force had been taken, was refused permission, though he volunteered his services!!! Or, if such injustice did happen, would they not be redressed?

It is commonly said that it is impossible to avoid giving King's Officers the principal commands on such occasions, because the officers of the crown, actually present with their regiments on such occasions, are entitled to them from their rank! If so, it only proves the necessity of adding a consider-

able number of officers of rank to the Company's Army, for the purpose of putting it on an equality, at least, in this respect, with the more favored army, or that so many officers of the rank of colonel should not be allowed to be present with King's Regiments in this country. There is already, if I mistake not, some regulations on this subject, but, I suppose, not attended to, as it is manifest there is always found to be a great number of King's Colonels forth coming on all occasions where Brigade Commanders are to be made. In a word, justice requires that some plan should be devised for relieving the Company's Army from this intolerable grievance.

In your first number you have published a numerical list of General and Field Officers in His Majesty's Army, by which it appears there are no less than one thousand five hundred in the actual receipt of pay from the British Government for an army of little more than one hundred thousand men. You have likewise published in the same number an account of the numerical strength of the Company's Army, but have omitted to give us a numerical list of the Government and Field Officers classed under their separate heads as you have the other. Suppose, by way of contrast, you now favor us with this? It might prove of great service to us in various ways and you will, therefore, I trust, publish it in your next*. It is essential to draw the attention of those in authority to this point, one of the last importance to this army—in which the want of officers of rank is as much felt, as the contrary is in the Royal army; and it is evident that until this army is stocked with a greater proportion of officers of rank, it must continue depressed, and to have the mortification of being continually commanded by officers not belonging to it. Government will therefore, it is to be hoped, adopt measures for giving the Bengal Army a fair and sufficient number, relatively, to its numerical strength. If length and *continuity* of servitude entitled (as it ought) officers to high rank, the officers of the Company's Army would supersede those of His Majesty; very few of the officers of the King's Army *serving actually continuously throughout* their career, as the Company's Officers do.

There is another evil with which the Company's Army has to contend, and by which it suffers. I mean the very short tour (four years) of Commanders-in-Chief. If it must be commanded by an officer of another army, his tour of command should at least be made long enough to enable him to become thoroughly acquainted with it, which is by no means the case at present; or, if owing to the vast number of King's General Officers always looking out for employ, this may not be considered feasible, the Commander-in-Chief should (instead of being surrounded with a personal and confidential Staff equally unacquainted with the peculiar nature and constitution of this army as himself) be provided with one, especially a Military Secretary,

* We copied the list from an English periodical; but we will prepare the desired list in our next. - E.D.

from officers of long standing and experience in the Company's Army. Should it be deemed indispensable, another Military Secretary might be appointed for the King's Troops or the Quarter Master General of the King's Troops might, with some addition to his salary, take the duties.

A Governor General when he arrives in this country finds a council and secretaries all provided ready,—men, well versed in their business, and acquainted with the duties of every kind appertaining to the Government. He need therefore never be at a loss. Nevertheless it is thought advisable to allow a Governor General to stay longer than a Commander-in-Chief. *

It may perhaps be urged that the Adjutant General and Quarter Master General of the army are both Company's Officers, from whom a Commander-in-Chief can obtain every information:—admitted: he certainly could; but unfortunately the army knows by sad experience that their advice is little sought and less attended to. Their situations moreover are not of sufficient importance or *independence* to render their opinions or advice of much weight; or to encourage them to any thing approaching to remonstrance or a vigorous advocacy. †

They might certainly be considerably improved in this respect by making their appointments independent of the authorities in this country as the Military Auditor General's is; but, even then, I doubt their ability to do much, if, as is almost universally the case, they are opposed by the Military Secretary.

In the British Army there are, besides all the authorities at the Horse Guards, a Secretary at War, and Master General of the Ordnance, Cabinet Ministers, direct representatives to advocate its cause; also a number of Officers always in both Houses of Parliament. The same in the Navy. The consequence of which is that every thing relating to those services is sedulously and jealously watched, the good effects of which they feel. This grand army, on the contrary, twice the size of that of the Crown, may literally be said to be without a representative or advocate. It is in a manner bound hand and foot, and left to the mercy and *liberality* of its masters in Leadenhall Street, and those by them placed in authority over it in this country! The very serious and injurious consequences to its interests that it suffers owing to this are little known out of the Army. One of its consequences is compelling it, on all emergent occasions, to form committees, raise subscriptions, and appoint delegates, for which Captain Macan (who always when in this country pretended to be the first friend of this army,) in his evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons comments upon it in no *measured terms*. What else, however, allow me to ask, can be done? Had the King's Army no other mode of making their grievances known, would they not, as is the case with the Company's Army, be compelled to

have recourse to it, or other similar ones? It is in the highest degree ungenerous and unfair therefore to blame the Company's Army for doing that, which circumstances, not in any way brought on by themselves, and the constitution of their army without any representative or proper channel of communication, rendered in fact *absolutely imperative*.

It is often said by King's Officers that they do not share equally in the Staff Appointments; I much doubt if this, after all, is really the case. On the contrary, I rather incline to think that if the number of Commands and Staff Appointments of one kind or other at the three Presidencies held by them were reckoned, that it would be found they had their full share, relatively, of course, to their strength, as compared with the Company's Army. In this Presidency, besides the Commander-in-Chiefship, most of the personal Staff Appointments to the Governor General, Commander-in-Chief and General Officers on the Staff, the commands of Fort William and Agra, they have the Military Secretary to the Commander-in-Chief, the best Military appointment in the country, an Adjutant and Deputy Adjutant General, Quarter Master General, and Major of Brigade, Inspector of Hospitals, &c. Now considering that the King's Army in this country is but an auxiliary one,—that the officers belonging to it are continually being exchanged and going backwards and forwards to Europe,—and that the Army of the Crown is already in possession of all the appointments in its gift in every other part of the world, both Civil and Military; —(for, are they not Justices of the Peace, Members of Council, and Commanders-in-Chief and Governors in almost every colony belonging to Great Britain?—in none of which do the Company's Officers ever share)—they have, as it seems to me, already rather more than their just share. If it is said that Company's Officers cannot possibly hold appointments in the territories and possessions strictly under the rule of the King; it may be replied, on the same principle, that King's Officers should not hold them in the territories and possessions immediately under the sway of the Honorable Company,—for this argument cuts two ways.

Adverting to the fact of the numerous civil appointments held by the Officers of His Majesty's Army in different parts of the world, is it not somewhat extraordinary that a greater number of Company's Officers are not employed in civil and political situations in this country? At the present, and indeed at all former times, many more Madras Officers are thus employed than Bengal ones. Wherever officers have been so employed, they have given entire satisfaction; and from the great knowledge of the natives acquired by regimental officers they would frequently be found fitter for, and more able to give satisfaction to natives than those entirely brought up in the Civil Service, and who have not had the advantages in these respects that a Military man possesses. Besides which it is a well known fact that natives prefer Military men. How many old and deserving officers

are there at this present moment pining away in useless inactivity and miserable despondence with their regiments, for which in their present rank they are not, from length of service, age, and consequent disgust, at all fitted? I allude of course to such as have been unfortunate in their promotion, but who, if so employed, might prove of the greatest use. Any that were not found fit might be rehanded to their regiments. What a capital method, too, it would be of compensating such officers in some degree for their misfortune without any extra expence to the state! The present cruel and injudicious regulation restricting Staff employ, if not, as would be better, altogether rescinded, might at least be relaxed in favor of officers of a certain standing, for whom some little consideration ought to be shewn.

During times of peace more officers might be spared from their regiments, though certainly the more European Officers present with them in war, the better. Every officer should, when his regiment goes on service, be ordered to join it, and no man of honor or character either could, or would grumble at being, *when necessary*, ordered on such occasions to join at his own expence by dawd. Officers of a certain standing who have been unfortunate in promotion.—Captains of from twenty-five to thirty years service are not in the places befitting their age with their regiments as mere commanders of companies; they cannot help feeling it, and be discontented and unhappy; all which must frequently have an effect on their juniors far from beneficial; and officers commanding regiments would rather not have men of such long standing, so nearly contemporary with themselves, present. The feeling is natural. It would, therefore, be in every way beneficial to the individual, to the Government, and to the service, if such were, until they can by promotion be put into their proper places, provided for away from their Corps.

Amongst the officers examined by the Sub-Committee of the House of Commons, I have in vain looked for the name of our highly talented and most respected late Adjutant General Colonel Fagan. He will, however, it is earnestly hoped, be examined.

The general relief has just arrived, by which it appears very few regiments are to move this year. It also however appears that due consideration, or to speak more truly, justice is not done, as some corps are kept up the country which have never been down, and others that have been long down are not ordered up. One corps is ordered up that is now in Bengal for its first time though an old one; thus letting it off with a half tour of the lower provinces, a tour being very generally considered at six years, or two stations; whilst another that has been three reliefs in Bengal, is not even yet ordered up. Had the 33d, indeed, been ordered up as a sort of reward for their good conduct in volunteering to go round by sea to Cuttack, nothing could have been objected, and it would have been a very

politic measure. This is not by any means fair; every regiment should in common justice, have its fair proportion of all parts of the country,—the agreeables and disagreeables of every description, including health, of all parts of the country, being precisely the same to all, and the loss in the difference of exchange between siccas and sonats, to say nothing of half Batta, &c., also. In every point of view, both as regards European Officers and men, it is extremely unjust favoring any particular regiments in these respects, done as it always must be, at the expence of others. Every corps too requires being every now and then in the Upper Provinces, were it only for the purpose of getting good recruits, and recruiting the health and appearances of the old men. Speaking of recruiting, it would, I conceive, be a good regulation, if it was ordered that all recruits enlisted from a certain date throughout the army, should be enlisted for *general service*. If this were done, this army would in the course of a few years become a general service one; the same as the armies of Madras and Bombay, and thus a sort of stigma, or taunt against the Bengal Army done away with, and all this too, without any danger or difficulty. Moreover, such a measure would prove serviceable in other ways, not exactly military, by gradually assisting to do away with many of the absurd customs of caste, and other prejudices, and thereby assisting the spread of general knowledge. It is very true, volunteers may generally be obtained but it would be more regular and more like a disciplined army if regiments could (as they can in every other service), be ordered. The 33d Regiment Native Infantry, very much to its credit, volunteered to a man a short time since to go by sea to Pooree to relieve the 47th, and enable it to proceed on service against the refractory chief of Deknaul. But then it was for a very short passage in steamers; not that I mean to infer that it would not have volunteered for a larger voyage, as it is evident the feeling in that corps must have been very good. But this is a thing we know from experience, that cannot always be depended upon; indeed on *this very occasion*, it is reported that the 33d was not the first regiment asked to go. The grand point then for the name and credit of the British Army and for the spread of enlightened ideas throughout the country, to say nothing of the vast increase thereby in the general usefulness to the government of the army, can only be attained by the mode I have suggested, of introducing a system of recruiting entirely for general service.

In conclusion, I shall just advert to the truly extraordinary and manifestly unjust regulation lately issued, directing that if at any time an officer shall be required to join his Regiment from Staff employ, the one *last* appointed, *i. e.* *shortest time absent*, shall be the one to join. If any regulation was necessary to be issued on this subject, it should, one would naturally suppose, if any thing like common sense or justice were attended to, have been the *very reverse* of this. The case is too obvious and the arguments too many and plain to require being brought forward, as they must strike any man of common sense or observation.

The great fault of the Court of Directors and the present Government seems to be *over legislating* ; making regulations for every minute contingency that had very much better be left to the discretion of the government for the time being to act according to circumstances. The evil effects are, however, severely felt in this army, where there are not the same facilities that exist in the King's Army of *evading* regulations.

ANONYMOUS.

THE KNIGHT IN THE SOLDAN'S CHAIN.

Sir Aymers's cell is murk and fell,
But three short paces square ;
A mighty chain, with ceaseless pain,
His fest'ring ancles bear.

Borne down in fight, by 'whelming might
And countless Paynim blows,
All Syria's fear pines helpless here
In thralldom of his foes.

With locke unshorn, and buff coat torn,
And fiercely clenched hands,
Indignant eye and bursting sigh,
All grim and pale he stands.

" Oh for an hour, one eager hour,
Of glorious battle's charms !
And oh to hear your clarion clear,
Mine own tried men at arms !"

" Oh for my steed, the firm in need,
The stalwart and the proud !
The prompt to wheel, at touch of steel,
Like Falcon 'neath the cloud."

" Oh for the shout, when blades leap out,
And pennons fling them free ;
The starry glance of level lance,
The whirlwind charge for me !"

" When slaughter's rain dyes all the plain,
And fate struck foemen reel,
And rank on rank, press front and flank,
Like wave on wave of steel."

" Better to die when pride is high
And battle field is won ;
Better to fall, than pine in thrall,
And feel death creeping on !"

" Oh for the chance of blade and lance
To win a warrior's bier !
Better to sleep that slumber deep,
Than rot in anguish here !"

" Mine heart is dead, mine hope is fled, •
My very soul is naught;
Unceasing spring, with ceaseless sting,
Wild agonies of thought."

" Fell darkness round, like heavy swound,
And horrid piles of stone;
Cold chains that wear, a fierce despair,
A fever and a moan."

• " Oh for an hour, one burning hour,
Of glorious battle's charms !
And oh ! to hear yon clarion clear,
Mine own tried men at arms !"

P. G. T.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL COMMANDANTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EAST INDIAN UNITED SERVICE JOURNAL.

SIR,—It should seem that the memorial of Colonel Henry Faithful, of the Artillery, is likely to be attended to by the Home Authorities, and the injury he complained of redressed.

Will you, Mr. Editor, or any of your military readers, inform us upon what principle those Colonels of the Indian Army, who, prior to the promotion of 1829, attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel Commandants, and, consequently, Regiments, did not, *then*, immediately take rank of all Company's Lieutenant Colonels, although, (from the mere chances of *regimental rise* in our army) they may have previously stood below some of them as Lieutenant Colonels ? That this was obviously their right I think is indisputable ; they were to all intents and purposes full Colonels, though it was, at that period, thought expedient to style them Commandants instead of Colonels, *merely* to prevent the supercession of His Majesty's Lieutenant Colonels—yet, although they obtained Regiments as Lieutenant Colonel Commandants, long before the others, they have ever since ranked below them, and are so placed in the *gradation* list, though they occupy their just position in the *Seniority* list of Colonels of Regiments.

PERICLES.

P. S. I observe some Colonels, who though they were Lieutenant Colonel Commandants, and consequently obtained Regiments, so early as 1825, yet rank below Colonels who only obtained their Regiments in 1829.

P.

MILITARY RETIRING FUND.

[The following is a correct copy of the Report of the Committee appointed by Government to consider the details of a proposed Retiring Fund. We have thought it as well to give the report at length, because the publication in General Orders, and the newspapers appears to have been very imperfect.]

TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL CASEMENT,

Secretary to Government,

Military Department.

SIR,

In obedience to the orders of Government communicated in your letter of the 28th August, we have the honour to report that having carefully examined and compared the several documents transmitted to us on the subject of the proposed Military Retiring Fund, we are decidedly of opinion that such an Institution would be extremely advantageous to the army at large, whilst, to the state, the financial expense of the measure would fall far short of the beneficial effect, which would accrue to it from the improved condition of the service with regard to the prospect of promotion, as well as from the younger class of officers, who would thereby be brought into the command of Regiments and Divisions of the Army.

2.—We are apprehensive, however, that much difficulty will be experienced in persuading a large proportion of officers to tax themselves to the amount which would appear to be necessary in order to carry the measure into complete effect, agreeably to the limit marked by the Honorable Court of Directors. Even of those who most strenuously advocate the establishment of a Retiring Fund, it is the opinion of a large class, that no bonus which it is likely to offer, will be sufficient to induce the required number of officer in the grade of Lieutenant Colonel to retire: whilst a class, perhaps still larger than the former, look upon the sum to be offered, not so much in its true light of the price given for those advantages of the service which the Retiring Officer resigns, as in that of a compensation for the slowness of promotion which any particular officer may have experienced. It is on this account that the last mentioned class advocate the principle of the bonus being offered entirely with reference to length of service instead of superiority of rank.

3.—The Military Auditor General in his letter of the 31st December 1832, has ably pointed out the disadvantages which would attend the course adverted to, under the existing organization of this army; and had that Officer contented himself with so doing, his observations would have commanded our unanimous concurrence, but he has gone on to suggest that the difficulty acknowledged to be felt on this head should be removed by "permitting the Captains to rise in a line gradation list as at present with Majors." Such a change in the organization of the service, we deem it

our duty to remark, would in the first place materially tend to defeat one principal object of a Retiring Fund; which is, to favour the advance of comparatively young and active officers to the higher grades of the army, one advantage of a regimental rise undoubtedly being, that by the chances of the service officers whilst still in the vigour of life may possibly arrive at the command of corps; an event which, under a seniority promotion throughout the line, would be entirely hopeless. In the second place we would observe, that the occasional supercession attending a regimental rise to the grade of Major, though it is frequently extremely galling to individuals, is yet attended with the salutary effect of encouraging that military ardour, which is at once the greatest ornament and safeguard to the character of an army. An officer when ordered upon service, or when going into action, knows that if he survives the common peril he will reap also the common reward in the promotion which that service may occasion; but if he has to wait, under all circumstances, until the whole of his seniors throughout the line be promoted, the gallant conduct of his particular regiment will have no other effect than that of causing him to be removed; or to be retained, perhaps as Senior Captain, until several Majors in succession, total strangers to the corps, have superseded him in the command of it. These objections would apply even if the alteration in question were only to have effect prospectively, with regard to all who might hereafter enter the service; but, if the measure were to be adopted at the present moment, it would be highly injurious to all those who have the good fortune to stand higher on the list at present than a mere seniority rise would perhaps have allowed.

4.—We are not ignorant that the measure of rendering the Majority a line step, would ensure the support of a considerable number of officers, who would otherwise feel indisposed to concur in the establishment of a Retiring Fund. But, even if this point were conceded, we are far from believing that its effect would be to increase the amount of contributions to the extent supposed; for we hold it as incontrovertible that the lower the retirements are allowed to take place upon the list, the less will be the inducement to the higher ranks to contribute. If Majors are to be purchased out, few or no Lieutenant Colonels will subscribe; whatever advantage, therefore, might be expected from the measure now adverted to, would in a great degree be neutralised by the Lieutenant Colonels being thereby deterred from joining the Institution.

5.—Even if the operation of a Retiring Fund be prevented from descending lower upon the general list of officers than the junior Lieutenant Colonel, we are hardly sanguine enough to reckon upon so large a portion as one half of that grade becoming subscribers. We are of opinion, however, that subscriptions to a considerable extent, though not regularly, may occasionally be expected from them upon the following principle. It is, we believe, generally held that the money value of a Lieutenant Colonel's expectation of being able to retire with the emoluments of a regiment, is about 25,000 rupees when he is at the bottom of the list. It is thence deducible that, as

the rate of his advance is regulated exclusively by the ordinary rate of mortality among the Colonels and Lieutenant Colonels above him, every resignation is worth a certain fixed sum to him according to the part of the list in which it takes place. This sum (we have reason to believe) may be roughly estimated at something less than about one thousand rupees for every six and half resignations, from the 1st-Lieutenant Colonel to the nineteenth on the list for every four, from the nineteenth to the fifty-eighth, and for every one and a half, amongst the eighteen immediately above the junior. Lieutenant Colonels therefore, might with propriety be called upon to contribute agreeably to the above estimate: that is, at the rate of one year's subscription, or nine hundred and sixty rupees for every one and half resignations effected by the Fund, amongst those of the third class just mentioned, who were above them on the list, and the same for every four resignations in the second class, and every six and half in the first class. This arrangement we are of opinion would secure a considerable amount of contribution from the grade of Lieutenant Colonel, particularly as several resignations would in all probability occur among the officers on furlough, some of whom, although perhaps high upon the list, would be tempted by the offer of 2,000 or 2,500 £ to avoid the risk and trouble attending a return to their duty in this distant part of the world.

6.—With the modifications which the preceding observations suggest, we beg to state that the plan of a Retiring Fund submitted by the Military Auditor General has our entire concurrence. On a subject on which such diversity of opinion prevails, we are aware that the unanimous approval by the army of any specific scheme is not to be expected; and we deem it a part of our duty to state our decided opinion, that no practicable means exist of compelling the minority to be governed by the will of the majority of the Officers of the Army, however small that minority might happen to be. But, at the same time, we do not conceive that there is any necessity for delaying the establishment of the Fund on that account, unless it be found that the extent to which it can be carried into effect, is not sufficient to indemnify its supporters for the outlay of their contributions. It is abundantly manifest from the documents now before us, that the rates of subscription expected from the several grades are in some instances less than half the present value of the benefit which each individual will derive from the proposed Fund, provided about half the Lieutenant Colonels, and all under that rank, become subscribers. Even in the higher grades, in which the rates of subscription appear more nearly to approach that value, the general advantage of promotion, independent of pecuniary considerations—the exemption from the more harassing duties of the junior ranks, together with the hope of soon attaining to command and influence, tend to reduce the value of subscriptions, as compared with the benefits obtained by their means. Under this view we do not believe that we are much in error in estimating the contributions, universally, at only equal to half the real value of those benefits. If, therefore, a moiety of the officers at large should accede to the

plan to be proposed, it might be carried into effect to half the extent sanctioned by the the Honorable Court, without any individual paying more for the advantage gained than it was actually worth. They would not, it is true, reap any pecuniary *advantage* from the Fund, but they would not lose. The plan of giving a Bonus instead of an Annuity to the Retiring Officer, is favorable to the arrangement here suggested, since it in a manner isolates the transactions of each year, and renders it totally independent of those which follow. Every individual pays for his share of a benefit to be received on the spot; and should the institution cease to operate immediately after the transaction is closed, he loses nothing, unless, as before remarked, the Fund be supported by a smaller proportion than half the aggregate number of officers composing the army. If the method now pointed out of bringing a Retiring Fund into gradual operation should succeed, we have no doubt whatever, that the high honourable feeling of military men would not fail speedily to induce the dissentient parties to join the institution, rather than continue to participate in advantages purchased at the expense of their brother officers. So deeply, indeed, are we impressed with a sense of the manifold advantages which a Retiring Fund would confer upon this army that we should feel ourselves justified in urging its introduction even upon a smaller scale, in the first instance, than that which we have just specified—in the full confidence that those who at first might decline to support the measure would very speedily waive their objections and paying up all their arrears indemnify their brother Officers for their previous outlay, but in deference to the feelings and correct discernment of the Army at large, we forbear to recommend that mode of proceeding.

7.—We beg therefore to suggest to Government the expediency of taking the suffrages of the Officers of the Army upon the following propositions which constitute the basis of the plan submitted by the Military Auditor General, upon the modified view which we have taken of it:—

1.—To purchase the retirement of Lieutenant Colonels, by tending to them a bonus of twenty-five thousand rupees, to be remitted to England, if required, at two shillings per rupee.

2.—To contribute to this effect in the following proportions.

Lieutenant Colonels,	50 Rs. per mensem.
Majors,	60 "
Captains,	20 "
Lieutenants,	10 "
Ensigns,	6 "

Whilst on full batta; and, when on half batta as follows:—

• Lieutenant Colonels,	64 Rs. per mensem.	•
Majors,	48 "	
Captains,	16 "	•
Lieutenants,	7-12 "	
Ensigns,	4 "	

Lieutenant Colonels have their contributions returned to them, if desired, provided no resignations take place above them (agreeably to the spirit of Paragraph V.)

3.—Officers on furlough to pay five per cent. on their actual receipts whilst absent.

4.—In all cases where the number claiming the bonus, exceeds the number which the fund can provide for, a preference to be given to priority of date of entering the service in India.

8.—In the foregoing statements the Medical Department has not been included, as we have received no communication from any individual of that body, or from the Medical Board. We beg however, to state that we do not apprehend any difficulty in incorporating the Medical branch of the service with the Army Retiring Fund, upon the principle of considering such members of the Board as are entitled to the smallest pension of that grade, and all Superintending Surgeons entitled to retire upon £500 per annum, as forming the class from which the contemplated resignations would be effected. Under this arrangement, and looking upon the aggregate Medical service as equivalent in number to the Officers composing 18½ Regiments of the line, we conceive that nine of the Superintending Surgeons might be called upon for subscriptions upon the same terms as the Lieutenant Colonels—that the eighteen senior Surgeons should subscribe as Majors, and the remainder of that grade as Captains; and that the first one-hundred and forty-four Assistant Surgeons should subscribe as Lieutenants, and the rest as Ensigns. Under this classification the number of their retirements, if all subscribed, would be something more than two rupees and two annas per annum that is two every year and a third every fifth year.

9.—In conclusion, we beg to state that the principle adverted to in Paragraph fourth of confining the retirements to the highest grade practicable, induces us to point out to the particular attention of Government, the suggestion contained in the twenty-ninth Paragraph of Colonel Barr's letter from Bombay: that the retirements of Colonels be effected by purchasing life annuities for them to the full amount of their pay leaving them to receive off reckonings as at present. This plan, in its full extent, would certainly be impracticable, since, setting aside other objections, it would in the course of a few years apply to individuals whose age would render the purchase of an annuity too expensive for the Retiring Fund to bear—to a limited extent, however, we think it both practicable and advantageous to the great measure in agitation;—If the Court of Directors would authorise the creation of a new retired or senior list, at the expense of the Military Retiring Fund, and to the extent of one third of the number of retirements which they have sanctioned, the expense to the fund would not be greater than that of an

equal number of retirements on the scale which is now proposed for Lieutenant Colonels; for, assuming the average age of the four Senior Colonels of the Army to be seventy-five an annuity of £456-5 could be purchased in England for less than twenty-four thousand rupees, which is below the amount intended to be offered to Lieutenant Colonels. By an arrangement of this nature the chances of promotion to the Lieutenant Colonels would be so much improved, and they would notwithstanding any previous furlough, be able to return to Europe upon the full pay of Colonel—there to wait till their turn for receiving off- reckonings arrived—so much sooner than would otherwise be the case, that we have little doubt it would induce the whole of them to become subscribers to the Fund; thereby adding nearly half a lac of rupees per annum to its resources, and perhaps enabling it to raise the bonus to £3000 sterling. The financial effect of this modification of the original scheme would be very greatly to reduce the expense of the Retiring Fund to the Honourable Company. Whilst the actual amount of pay, issued to Colonels, would continue the same exactly as at present, the expenses of the Bengal pension list would be diminished by the retired pay of four Lieutenant Colonels, amounting, when considered in the light of an annuity, (agreeably to the estimate given by the Military Auditor General in the twenty-first paragraph of his letter of the 31st December last) to £14,992-14-9—against which sum the only off-set would be the amount of India allowances (exclusive of pay) to such of the newly promoted Colonels as might remain in India; which, if all were to do so, would constitute an annual charge at two shillings the rupee of £4618, thus showing a balance in favor of the Company of £10,274 per annum. In opposition to this view of the advantages which would result from the measure now adverted to, we are not aware of any practical objection to it, excepting that which might arise out of the question of the eligibility of Officers, so placed upon the senior list, for Military employment. From the slow progress which such a small number of retirements would make in descending the list of Colonels, we apprehend that it could never become the turn of an officer, to be placed upon an annuity until his tour of staff command had long passed and he himself had lost all desire to resume Military duty in India. As, however, a case of this kind might possibly occur,—and it is suggested to our minds by the present situation of Lieutenant General Marley—we content ourselves with pointing out the objection trusting that it might be easily obviated should Government deem fit to recommend the establishment of the senior list upon the principle here adverted to.—Under any circumstances, however, we do not wish to embarrass the question of the feasibility of a Retiring Fund by introducing this new principle at the present moment. The only object we have in view in touching upon the subject is to suggest to Government the expediency of bringing it to the favorable notice of the Hon'ble Court of Directors, as an effectual means of assisting the formation of an institution which they have declared themselves so cordially disposed to encourage.

We are, &c.

THE DEATH OF THE BRAVE.

I.

The hero conquers pain and death
 Who proudly yields a transient breath
 For immortality ;
 A dark oblivion doth not fall
 Around him, like a funeral pall,
 As when the dull herd die.

II.

His glory lingers, like the light
 Of summer suns, or visions bright,
 That radiantly depart ;
 His image like a guiding star
 Still gilds the rough red seas of war,
 And cheers the dauntless heart.

III.

Though pale and coward lips may swear
 That life is sweet and fame is air,
 The taunt ne'er stirs the brave ;
 For oh ! how pitiful and brief
 The life, that like a scentless leaf,
 Can charm not from the grave.

IV.

The purest spirits of the sky
 May still revert with partial eye,
 To all they loved below ;
 And while their honored offspring share
 The lustre of the name they bear,
 With sacred triumph glow.

V.

Oh ! who then would not dare the death
 That heroes die, and seize the wreath,
 No mortal blast may blight ?
 The general doom that mocks his kind
 He half defies who leaves behind,
 A trail of glorious light !

MILITARY AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

If any one were disposed to take *qui fit Mæcenæ* for his text and write a critical essay on the proneness of mankind to be dissatisfied with their present condition, what an admirable illustration might not India, and particularly Military life in India, afford! In other parts of the world the argument is rendered incomplete, or at least weakened, by the apparent necessity for admitting that another opportunity for making "a choice of life" might, to the individual concerned, be attended with beneficial consequences; but in India it must come home to the business and bosom of almost every body who dispassionately reflects upon the matter, that in no possible, or at least probable way, could his particular lot have been more happily cast. Let every man ask himself these questions—what was the condition of my parents when they obtained my appointment to this service?—what were my expectations as a younger or even an elder son?—what was the education they could afford to give me, or what promise of ability did I hold out to encourage them in making me the scholar of the family?—and in fine, what chance had I of commanding sufficient means to enable me to push my fortunes in any other line, and what requisites, moral and physical, did I myself possess to prop my confidence and smooth the path to success? A man who is conscious of good abilities, a strong constitution, and powerful energies, is too apt to believe, as was said of Cato, that in whatever sphere he happened to be born, distinction could not fail to be his lot in life. The sentiment, too, if not cultivated into rank luxuriance in the hot-bed of overweening pride, is healthy and vigorous, and well calculated to produce that full-blown maturity which is not only goodly to look upon, but fills the surrounding air with the sweetest fragrance. But if this ardent individual attentively scans the history of the little community in which he was born—if he reflects upon the number of competitors in the race for fortune, who started with as fair pretensions as any he can boast, but who were distanced, or, if they did keep close to the leader, were only the more completely deafened by the loud greetings bestowed upon their rival, whilst none cried "God bless *them*"—how will his heart sink at the prospect, and how fortunate he will have reason to think himself in being spared the necessity of this struggle for existence—this overstraining exertion of mind and body—where success will do little more than rescue him from want, whilst failure is sure to involve him, and those interested in his welfare, in every sort of wretchedness and misery.

Let it not be supposed that in thus changing the hand and checking the pride of young ambition, it is intended to inculcate the advantages of indolence, or to resound the praises of mediocrity. Far from it. In every calling or profession in which we may be placed there is ample space and verge enough for the honest exercise of those qualities which under favourable circumstances lead on to fortune—but which, even when in darkness and with dangers compassed round, shed the approving light of a good con-

science and a contented mind upon their happy possessor. To draw attention to this point is the object of the foregoing remarks, and if the sketch which we now propose to draw of the life of an officer in the Bengal Army, be considered in any way illustrative of their truth, it will not have been hazarded in vain.

A FEW LEAVES FROM THE JOURNAL OF A BENGAL OFFICER.

I am a younger son—but *that* is a matter of very little consequence ;—it would have been all one if I had been the eldest, for the broad acres and spacious halls in which my ancestors delighted, had passed into other hands long before I could have contemplated them with the eye of one who ever expected to become their proprietor. Malthus had not written his essay—and although Adam Smith explained the division of labour some years previous to my grandfather's decease, yet as he did not say much about the division of property, and as my grandfather looked upon it as a very meritorious act to beget soldiers to recruit his Majesty's forces by sea and land, it somehow or other never occurred to the good old gentleman's mind that to recruit for, or be recruited by them, was no very infallible method of recruiting the family estate. Had he been a Scotsman indeed, this little oversight might have been easily set to rights, for he might have given all his younger sons a commission, or an out-fit of three shirts and a pair of corderoys, and bid them trust to Providence for the rest ;—but the law of primogeniture never obtained in our family : it took its rise in times when there was little to be had at home and a great deal to be got abroad—and on this account the Scotch have adhered to it ever since the days of John Baliol. In our part of the country gavel-kind was looked upon as the birth-right of every family ; and in ours, in particular, there runs a tradition, that on one occasion of dividing goods and chattels an odd bullock happening to remain it was killed and dressed upon the spot, the whole party feasting upon it and carrying away the fragments on their pack-saddles—and all this too, when a house, paddock and orchard were allotted to two sisters instead of their share of six brood mares which the young men divided between themselves ; but then such mares ! More of this perhaps, however, by and bye.

Well, I hope, I have made it quite clear to the erudite reader, that by the time my father found himself the richer by some half dozen of strapping boys, to say nothing of girls, he began to feel sorely puzzled what to do with them. Like Esau he had sold his birthright to his brother, though for something better than a pot of porridge ; he had therefore no landed estate to depend upon. He had however so well managed his share of the patrimony, that after sojourning in foreign parts for some years he returned to England, whilst still young enough materially to improve his circumstances by marriage. But habits of indulgence, and, it may be, a little spice of family pride, on both sides, effectually prevented any other augmentation in my honored parent's stock of comfort, excepting those which a crowded table afford ; and every body knows that when a christmas pudding is made for fifteen

It must either be a very large one, or those who partake of it must be content with a genteel rather than a substantial slice. Now this being the case at our board, it is no marvel that my father, who had gone to London, and who was, what is vulgarly styled, kicking his heels one fine morning in the neighbourhood of Leadenhall Street, was a good deal gratified on finding himself accosted by a very old friend and school fellow, who, he found, was a Director in the India House. They had not met for thirty years, and almost the first enquiry which the warm-hearted gentleman made as to my father's situation and prospects led to the offer of a Cadetship for poor me, then a rag-muffin boy, whom neither all the pains which his mother bestowed upon him could ever keep what is called tidy, nor the liberal allowance of cane and birch, showered upon him by his master, awaken to any other contemplation, but that of the best mode of scaling fences in search of the sour fruit that lay concealed behind them.

Never shall I forget the sensation created in our little circle when my father passed down with the welcome news, his ever cheerful countenance still more radiant with placid satisfaction than even it was wont to be, and exclaiming as he alighted "I've been offered a Cadetship for Fred., and may perhaps be able to do something for the others when they are old enough." My two elder brothers were already considered as disposed of, one was walking the hospitals in London and the other studying at Oxford, with the view of succeeding to a living in the gift of one of my maternal uncles, which his consumptive son was expected shortly to resign. They were both absent, but I was within call, and a deputation of my sisters, and one urchin of a brother who was just old enough to comprehend that all this bustle portended something good to me, was sent to conduct me to the presence. My mother, as usual, scanned my appearance from head to foot and told me to hold my head up as I entered the parlour, but my father, who had been away some time, greeted me warmly, and good humouredly pinching my ears said, "you little rogue you, how would you like to be a soldier." A Soldier! what a grand sound, (as of a trumpet) the word appeared to have as my father articulated it! He was none of those clippers of the King's English who pronounce it *sodger*; but it came from his lips as if he thought it, and he really did so, synonymous with citizen,—a citizen too, who was pledged to do good fight whenever his services were called for. There was another reason for this, however, for besides being a very loyal subject he had been brought up in strict subordination to his elder brethren, and as one of these held a high rank in the service, and shewed moreover by his deportment the deep sense he entertained of that distinction, the 'Sir' with which my father had never failed to address him insensibly came to be considered as due even more to his military pretension than to family precedence.

With these feelings it may easily be imagined that my father was quite delighted when in reply to his question I exclaimed "a soldier—what like my

uncle, Papa ? Oh, I should be so glad !"—He cherished it as an omen of my future greatness and told me that he was sure I should not only be like my uncle, but, added he, "as celebrated a man as your grandfather there" pointing to the portrait of an elderly gentleman in a strange non-descript sort of dress compounded of red, yellow and blue, and standing in the third position, his left hand resting on the hilt of his sword, his right being held a-kimbo, whilst with a complacent pair of blue eyes he stole a side-long glance from under a full powdered wig as if in the act of courting the admiration of all beholders. This in fact was the modern great man of the family. He was the son of one of those worthies whom I have mentioned above as having been so anxious to keep up our breed of horses ; and such had been his wealth in that article, that on the Pretender's expedition into England, he had raised a goodly troop of musketeers and had made so formidable an appearance in the neighbourhood of Derby, that, in his opinion at least, the retreat of that hair-brained adventurer was not entirely attributable to the discontents of his highland chieftains, as was industriously reported at the time. My father, indeed, in his most serious fits, when lamenting over the fallen condition of the family, used more than to hint that if justice had been done on that occasion it would have been the making of us all for at least three generations. As it was, it ended only in my grandfather's having the honorary rank of Major conferred upon him—though he had never regularly belonged to the Army—to which was added the permission to wear a fox upon his crest, in commemoration of the vigilance he had manifested in that alarming crisis. But to return from this digression, the reader who no doubt already takes considerable interest in my affairs, will be curious to know how it happened that I was able to give such a prompt reply to my father's question, and why it was that I expressed so much satisfaction at the idea of becoming a soldier, when almost all I knew of that class was that they were generally dressed in red, and walked about the country accompanied by a drum and fife, giving ribbon cockades to every body who was inclined to accept of them, and sometimes to those who were not. The truth, then, is—for it must be told—that in the general arrangements as to the settlement of his children, my father had originally designed me to be a sort of assistant or co-partner, as the case might be, of my brother the intended Doctor. I was to have been apprenticed to a chemist and druggist, or an apothecary, so as to be ready to enter upon my vocation as soon as my brother began to get into practice, and we were to play into each other's hands, something in the manner of partners at whist, he having all the honours and I the playing cards. Now I had no particular objection to be a compounder of medicines, for, in truth, I knew no more about them then I did about Military men, but unfortunately this was not the case with my school-fellows, and the cruel taunts and sarcasms I had to undergo in consequence of my pestle and mortar destination, added to the fearful epithet of *half-starved*, which they never failed to prefix to the word apothecary, made my existence at school perfectly miserable, and filled my mind with the most gloomy forebodings.

It was, therefore, with feelings approaching to rapture that I heard my father announce the contemplated change—for, besides that change of any kind is always pleasing to young people, I hailed it as a relief from persecution—a sentiment which I have lived long enough to know is one of the most delightful of which poor mortals are susceptible.

I had thoughts, in this faithful chronicle of my life and opinions, of reading a great moral lesson to all schoolmasters on the benefit which would accrue to their pupils, if the latter were taught to respect themselves instead of being overwhelmed with abuse and punishment for every apparent deficiency; which, perhaps, only needed a better direction being given to their unfledged efforts to disappear altogether. But, besides, that an exposition of this nature would be apt to become somewhat lengthy, the wonderful art of phrenological development has saved me the trouble of writing, and my readers that of studying, a subject so knotty in itself, and one of such problematical utility to any of us. Suffice it then to say that on my return to school, I had at once started into early manhood; a marked difference was to be observed in the manner in which the master and all his subordinates behaved towards me, and this I speedily requited by outstripping all my competitors to such a degree, that in the short period that elapsed before I quitted the establishment, I was, if not amongst the cleverest, certainly amongst the most advanced of the scholars. Mark, I beseech thee gentle reader, the innate modesty of this avowal; I say advanced, as I have since learnt to understand the word by observing the course which promotion takes in the several branches of the army, impressed as I am with a truly military conviction that occasionally it rewards merit, oftentimes creates it; and therefore still more frequently does both. Which of these was my case, I will not venture to pronounce; though, by the way, I have managed to make the odds pretty much in my favour; but certain it is that in the eighteen months, to which I allude, I made greater progress in all my studies than I had done during the six years, I had previously consumed with the same general object in view. All this, however, was quickly passed. Time seemed to fly, and it was not till I had bid farewell (with much less regret than I ought to have felt, by the bye) to my mother, my sisters and brothers, and found myself seated in a postchaise with my father on the road to Portsmouth, that I first attained a full sense of the mighty change that had been worked in me and my destinies.

'Twas not till the last day's journey, that my dear father addressed himself to the task of giving me his parting advice, but even then it was at first too much for him. As yet none of his children had left the shores of England. I was the first, and to what a fearful distance was I going! He recollected his own similar pilgrimage, and what he had himself gone through on that occasion, but calling to mind his own quick and happy

return to his native land, he could not help feeling that my prospects were not so bright, and that a much longer interval would pass before I could hope to revisit those scenes of my early years, the vivid recollection of which had only been effaced during the hurry of my departure to recur with still greater force to the mind when separated from them by nearly half the intervening globe. Apparently to divert his attention, and at the same time to prevent mine from wandering, he pulled out his pocket-book and from a small bundle of papers drew out one on which had been carefully copied the advice of Polonius to his son Laertes; this, though he knew it to be familiar to me, he told me to read over with care, and whilst I was engaged in doing so, he collected his own thoughts and succeeded in fitting himself to continue in the strain he had before commenced.

I have marked your conduct, he said, on most of the points adverted to in that little extract, and on very few of them have I any anxiety. Notwithstanding your youth we have of late treated you so entirely as a companion, that you have insensibly acquired some habits that will be useful to you, on mixing with ordinary society. Without being more bashful than I would wish one of your years to be, you have the discretion to listen to the opinions of others instead of hazarding your own;—how to discriminate between them, and avoid undue bias in appreciating their value, nothing but acquired knowledge or experience of the world can teach you. And the same indeed may be said concerning the selection of friends. I do not wish to repress the kindly feelings of your nature, but you may rely upon it, my dear boy, that in your progress through the world you will find a real friend to be the rarest of the human species. Diogenes is said to have taken a lantern in broad daylight to look for an honest man; the story would have been more appropriate if a friend had been what he wanted to discern. Should you be so fortunate, however, as to find one, I need not tell you to cling to him to the utmost of your power, and to encourage his regard and justify your own by striving to banish all selfish views from your mutual intercourse. As to quarrels, your natural disposition is too good to make me apprehensive of your being engaged in one without a cause; for the rest, however, your name must be your safeguard; it never yet was disgraced and I feel assured you will not be the first to disgrace it. Then as to dress, let it always be as good as your circumstances allow and your situation demands. But be careful in this, and every other point, to economize your means so as always to live within your income; a needy man is always a dependant man; if, therefore, you can possibly save anything, do so, but without trumpeting it abroad; for this constitutes the most delicate and difficult point to attend to in the advice of Laertes' father. Money known to be saved is a temptation to borrowers, as valuables thrown carelessly about are a temptation to pilferers; both, probably, are the effect of ostentation as much as of carelessness, and both meet with their appropriate punishment. To refuse to lend money when applied to for that purpose is often a very disagreeable

task, but the application would seldom be made, if not invited, as I may almost say, by the conduct I have just hinted at; and at any rate I would rather have you practice the prudent reserve of not encouraging such applications, than incur the risk of being obliged to deny those who might conceive themselves to have a fair claim upon your good offices. But, speaking of saving as a possible contingency, you are not to forget, my dear boy, that you are now about to enter a service that is extremely well paid, not indeed so well as I have heard it was formerly, but still extremely well. You will as a young Ensign receive a larger actual income, than serves to maintain a respectable and numerous family in your native land. You will of course be assailed on all hands by idle foolish youths who will endeavour to persuade you that your pay is not enough to keep you like a gentleman, and that it is what they term *snobbish* to keep yourself out of debt. The absurdity of these assertions your own good sense would speedily enable you to detect, but there is unhappily a contagion in example which a young man of spirit often finds it difficult to avoid. I am far from advising you to make yourself conspicuous by at once setting yourself in direct opposition to these ill-advised young men, but if you can contrive to avoid an open rupture with them, and at the same time keep in view, the general principles of economy which I have recommended, you will shortly reap the reward of your prudence and forbearance, not only in conciliating the regard of your superiors, but in securing to yourself that feeling of independence and conscious rectitude which a man who suffers himself to run into debt can very rarely hope to experience. Do not imagine, however, that I wish to rivet your attention exclusively on money, but as you advance in the world you will not fail to observe that it addresses itself so directly to the business and bosoms of mankind as in some sort to mix itself up with every transaction of life; and yet, such is its peculiar character, that to pay too much, or too little, regard to it, is almost equally hurtful to our interests. It reminds me of what you were reading the other night of Otho, the Roman Emperor, who, when cautioning young Salvius how to set a proper value on the circumstance of his being nephew to one who had enjoyed the Imperial dignity, said "*neu aut oblivisceretur unquam, aut nimium meminisset*"—that he ought never indeed to disregard it altogether, but that he ought to avoid thinking too much of it." But it is time to put an end to this long homily by drawing your attention to the last, but greater, point of all;—recollect that wherever you go, the hand of Providence is always extended over you—trust in every thing to the goodness of God—endeavour to act as if you were anxious that his all-seeing eye scanned your every thought—and then, happen what may, your mind will always have some solid comfort to rest upon."

Here he stopt—and I, with my heart too full to make any sort of reply or promise of obedience to his advice, hailed with more pleasure than I otherwise should have done, the appearance of the inn which was to terminate our journey and witness our parting. From that moment all was hurry and

confusion—the ship with her dismal Blue Peter flying at the mast head, was already preparing to weigh anchor, and of all that passed I can distinctly recall nothing to my memory but the warm embrace of my poor father as I stepped into the boat, and his last exclamation in reply to a hope which I expressed that we should soon meet again. “Never by dear boy, never—God in heaven bless you”—alas, they were the last words I ever heard him utter.

One sea voyage is so like another, that I cannot venture to hope that mine, were I to relate it, would furnish anything of a very novel or entertaining description. I shall therefore pass it over as quickly as possible and content myself merely with recording that like most young men in similar circumstances, I went on board with a very magnanimous resolution to read and study during the whole passage, and, like most, I forgot that resolution before I was sufficiently recovered from the discomforts of the Bay of Biscay to put it into effect. Let it not be imagined, however, that I was domiciled for so long a period as four months with the odd variety of character which is usually to be met with around the cuddy table of a large Indiaman, without deriving from it something in the way both of instruction and improvement. An officer belonging to a highland regiment in India introduced me to Burns and Allan Ramsay; and at that early period of my reading I recollect that I greatly preferred the latter. Pastorals were in a manner quite new to me. Theocrites’ I knew nothing of; and as to those of Virgil, I had read them as lessons, and could repeat some few lines by rote, but as compositions of the mind—as delineations of life and manners—I had no idea of them whatever. In Allan Ramsay, on the contrary, every thing in his “Gentle Shepherd” seemed to flow so naturally from the situation in which the parties were placed, that when read to me in the accent of my Scotch friend, who was wonderfully patient in explaining to me such words and phrases as I could not at first understand, I could almost imagine it to be the unsophisticated language of pastoral life recorded by the poet without any other effort than that of writing it down from the mouths of the speakers. Even that occasional coarseness and vulgarity, which our Northern friends seldom fail to consider as wit and humour, entirely escaped me—and if I have since been made more sensible of this point as a distinguishing national characteristic, it is more from my having seen a good deal of Scotch society both at home and abroad, than from any very extensive study of Scotch literature. But a truce to this criticism. I learnt other things besides reading poetry. The second officer of the ship observing me to be very solicitous about a certain bag of Spanish dollars which was stowed away in my sea-chest, very kindly undertook to teach me how to play at hazard. The consequence may easily be imagined—the big chest was sent for much more frequently than heretofore; but there was no difficulty in getting it up from the hold, as my friend the second

officer always interested himself in my behalf—my dollars however decreased rapidly, for though I was encouraged to hope that every successive visit I paid to the sacred hoard, was only to take away just enough to enable me to win back what I had lost, yet it so happened that the event always fell out differently. My bag was already contracted to about half its original span, but such was my ardent turn of mind, that I thought not for a moment of distrusting my fortune, and in all probability I should have continued to send the dollars I still retained, in search of those which my friend had eased me of, if I had not very fortunately overheard him exulting in anticipation at his having so easily made himself master of my whole store. This brought me to a stand immediately; and the embarrassing doubt occurred to me whether I was a dupe and he a scoundrel,—or merely that he was a clever fellow, and I at least an inexperienced one. The point was difficult to decide, for there was a great deal to be said on both sides; but the doubt saved my remaining dollars; and the ill humour of the second officer, when he found that I steadily declined his invitations to take a lounge in his cabin, seemed to shew that he counted with greater certainty upon his success, than the turns of a game of chance ought to have authorized him to do. And yet, perhaps, I do him injustice; he may possibly have derived his success entirely from a patient and wary attention to the doctrine of chances. But still, turn the matter how I can, there does appear to me such a combination of meanness and dishonesty in sitting down to play with a man, ostensibly on equal terms, and then putting in practice a concealed store of carefully assorted experience in order literally to rob him of his money, that I have ever since considered a professed gambler as a thief, who wanting courage to attack you on the highway, resorts to the more secure but dastardly practice of picking your pocket.

(To be continued. The Autobiography will we believe extend over a period of 30 years embracing in its range, most of the eventful military operations of the time, and combining with the narrative much useful instruction.)

REMARKS ON THE CONSTITUTION AND EFFICIENCY OF THE BENGAL COMMISSARIAT.

The Army Commissariat of Bengal is an extensive department differing much in its constitution from the same branch of service in almost every other army in the world. Instead of being considered, as elsewhere, a civil establishment, attached to the forces; in Bengal, and throughout British India, it is a portion of the General Staff,—a military Department,—and from the necessarily large salaries given to its higher grades, is an employment sought after by all ranks of the Military desirous of Staff advancement.

The commissioned officers employed are taken from the different regiments of the Company's Army, and the establishment is composed as follows:—One Commissary General, a Field Officer, with a salary (and the pay of his rank) of Sa. Rs. 3,000,—one Deputy ditto, who may be a Field Officer, but open to junior ranks, with full pay and allowance, Sa. Rs. 1,200,—six Assistants

Commissary General, the three senior holding besides pay &c. 1,000 each per month, and the three junior 700.,—eight Deputy Assistants Commissary General, the four senior, as above, Rs. 500, the four next 400 Rs.,—ten or twelve Sub-Assistants Commissary General, 300 per month. Besides the above, were a few Agent, Collateral or Subordinate Officers employed in the provision of timber, or in Commissariat charge at detached stations. In addition to the Commissioned Officers, a few warrant Officers are attached, viz. four conductors, on the same allowances as given to similar classes in the Ordnance Department. There are also twenty or thirty Serjeants,—useful, active men, selected from the Artillery or European regiments, and either employed as inspectors in the victualling department, or as writers in offices, or in charge of bullocks, &c. The staff salary of these men is about 20 Rs. in cantonments, and double that sum on detached duty, besides the pay, &c. of their rank. Those employed in offices receive salaries of 100 Rs. or less, in proportion to their talents.

The foregoing comprises the European branch of the Department. There are one or two East Indian clerks in some of the offices, but all the other agents, servants, and subordinates are Natives, who form the executive or working branch of the Commissariat;—these, in fact, being the bearers of the purse, the purveyors of supplies, custodiers of stores, the agents in every transaction, the executive in all duties, labour and trust; the Europeans being simply the heads of office, auditors, or comptrollers, pay-masters, and directors of the others.

The native fixed and permanent establishments, consist in the higher grades of treasurers, gomastahs or agents, sircars, &c., ill paid certainly with reference to their duty, and receiving generally much under one hundred or even the half of that sum per month. There are also, on moderate salaries, writers, copyists of English and Native accounts, money tellers, &c. in the different offices, performing the duties of clerks, &c. in the various district offices; together with the numerous peons, hirkirrahs and different servants attached to the cattle and other establishments. The latter receive the same pay in the Commissariat as common to the other establishments throughout the country.

The duties of the Commissariat in Bengal are the same as in other countries, with a few heavy additions, however, peculiar to this service. The European troops are supplied with rations, liquor, &c., and the army generally with its supplies, equipments, cattle, carriage, grain, camp equipage, petty stores for the arsenal and magazines, boats, materials for the foundry, gun carriage, and gunpowder manufactories: while added, until lately, to these, was the provision of stores, timber, wood work, paints, glass, &c. for much of the Barrack and Engineer Department. The elephant keddahs at Chittagong, and brood farm for cattle, camels &c. at Hissar, form branches of its management.

To meet the above, each Division of the army and principal station has a Commissariat office, under charge of one of the Commissioned Assistants, Deputy, or Sub-Assistants Commissary General. Thus Calcutta, Berhampore, Chittagong, Dinapore, Benares, Allahabad, Cawnpore, Agra, Meerut, Kurnaul, Bareilly, Neemuch, Nussacrabad, Saugor, and since the Burmah war, the new Military Divisions of Assam and Arracan are under charge of Commissioned Officers; having under them a proportion of the warrant staff, an establishment of native agents, writers, assistants, sircars, peons, chaprassies, and servants with the cattle and public establishments. The supplies of petty stores for the Arsenal and Magazines, as well as bazar medicines for the Honorable Company's Dispensary, are mainly given by a separate office established for the purpose at the Presidency, embracing also other collateral duties not connected with the army duty of the department. The whole are under the general executive controul of the Commissary General, who chiefly resides at Calcutta, while the Deputy remains at Cawnpore, and under the orders and instructions of the Commissary General, exercises an immediate controul over all the Field offices. Neither the Commissary General nor Deputy Commissary have offices of expenditure; their province being entirely to controul the disbursements and executive duties of their juniors.

Over the department generally is placed the Military Board, issuing to it all orders regarding its current expenditure and general supplies, and auditing all the bills from the various offices. The Military Board for this purpose has a separate branch under their Secretary in the Commissariat Department to which all accounts are rendered, all explanations regarding Commissariat expenditure forwarded, all references made, &c. Thus, while the Commissary General issues orders which he has received from the Government direct, or from the Commander-in-Chief, or the Military and other Boards, to his various Commissariat Officers at the different stations, directing movements, the hiring of equipments, purchase of grain, &c. &c. the Commissariat Officer renders account of expenditure made under such direction to the Military Board, who check, inspect, disapprove, or pass the charges under a regular system of audit.*

To meet expences the officers prepare monthly a schedule of estimated demand for the ensuing month; the Commissary General checks this by his

* This system has, however, been objected to. The original plan was for the Commissary General to embody all accounts in his office before audit, making himself responsible for the whole. Colonel Paton got rid of this onerous method and transferred the responsibility to the officers themselves, who were each ordered to render their accounts direct to the Military Board. But this mode is susceptible of much improvement. The Commissary General ought still to have the accounts rendered to himself from all officers. And under his surveillance a separate branch of accounts, as in the British Commissariat, under a responsible Commissariat Officer, as accountant, should arrange, examine, condense, and abstract the whole, previous to audit.

prices current of the various divisions,—by the known rate of feeding soldiers' cattle &c. at the respective stations, which rates are monthly and regularly sent him, and he then issues drafts on the various Collectors of Revenue in the neighbourhood of each Commissariat Office, and the different officers draw their funds thus from the nearest treasuries in their districts.

The duties of the various divisions are regular and well defined; the daily issue of rations to the European troops; purveying for the European hospitals; the supply of land conveyance and boats, or cattle to troops moving; the preparation and supply of new camp equipage, or petty stores on Indents, to the Magazine of the station; the custody of the public elephants and cattle, issue of grain for the cavalry, and the monthly rendering of accounts to the Military Board, and of statements of rates of feeding men and cattle, hire of boats, &c. state of grain depôts, &c. to the Commissary General; all these form the well ascertained duties which fall to the share and responsibility of the commissioned Commissariat Officer at each station. He issues notices to contractors and dealers, receives tenders for the supply of grain, accoutrements, &c. submitting all important cases for the Commissary General's orders or sanction. He deposes his gomastahs and sircars with detachments of troops moving from station to station, and controuls generally the acts and daily labours of the native establishment under him. His warrant or non-commissioned staff, superintend the daily issue of rations, the storing of grain, &c. while his own duty is to conduct the correspondence with different stations, and check as much as possible the natives employed, by constantly watching the supplies, examining the expences, inspecting the cattle, and supervising the bazar, and its police bunneahs, and superintending its importation of grain and supplies. To explain this last duty, it should be stated, that, for the last ten years the sudder bazars of the principal stations of the army have been made over to the Commissariat.

Recapitulating the foregoing, it is to be understood that the Commissariat is a complete and organised department stationed throughout the whole Bengal Presidency, (in fact, the same throughout India,) having officers and agents established at all points where equipments or supplies for troops are necessary;—that the whole act uniformly, and in unison with each other, intercharging mutual requisitions for aid and for the various supplies, wherever abundance or cheapness in any quarter may render it advisable. Boats and convoys of stores are passed on from one to another, advances made, and the interchange of debits and credits in accounts readily and regularly kept up. The Commissary General supplies the funds, and is the channel for all orders and instructions regarding the establishments or executive duties. The accounts are audited under the Secretary of the Military Board; that office checking all disbursements: but as every reference regarding expence, copies of account current and demands for explanation respecting incorrect charges, are furnished to, or through, the Commissary General

also, who sees besides the average results of the monthly charges, he has thus a tolerable knowledge of the expenditure of all his subordinates, although they alone are responsible, and himself not a disbursing officer. Over the department generally is the Military Board. The Supreme Government of course controuls the whole, and decides all questions of disbursement or expenditure unprovided for by the regulations.

The Commissary General can address the Government direct on any point requiring such reference; and is not, therefore, in this particular, wholly under the Board. The orders of the Supreme Government thereon being copied by him or his officers for the Board's information, are sufficient for their passing the expence incurred. This was held necessary to enable the Government to communicate their plans and proposed operations direct to the executive head of the Commissariat.

A department so formed has many advantages; and no Commissariat in the world perhaps has more powerful resources, combined means, readiness of action or capability within itself, than that of British India. Its officers also, being ranked on the general staff, and conceiving themselves in high military employ, there is with them more of gentlemanly zeal and honorable discharge of trust, than could be found if they were estimated lower than their brother officers, or were considered a mere civil or unmilitary department. Promotion is not by seniority, but by the choice and approbation alone of Government; and although only one or two instances have occurred of supercession, yet the very possibility of such a disgrace and loss has its beneficial and stimulating effect. All orders are promptly conveyed, and acted upon throughout the entire range of its operations; the demands for mutual aid are as imperative from the junior officer as the senior; thus all must combine to produce efficiency, and with very little delay the means and produce of the farthest Commissariat Districts can be concentrated at any given point of our possessions. The audit, at present (which was far from being the case in former years), is early and easy even though susceptible of improvement; the lowest scale of prices and expences is well ascertained and understood; and the Supreme Government are glad to be convinced from repeated trials that their wars are now carried on at a small portion only of the enormous expence to which they were exposed in all military operations before the Commissariat was instituted.

Thus far all is shewn to be well. But although in efficiency on a large scale the Bengal Commissariat has satisfied the Supreme Government, and in *economy* (no inconsiderable object,) it has attained all that was reasonably anticipated, yet, it must be confessed, that it has failed (materially failed) to gain the full approbation of the army itself; and thus, from the frequent complaints against its discharge of duty in its details, it cannot but have caused at times displeasure to the Government, and Supreme Authority, here and at home.

To explain something of this will be the object of the following remarks, and a few suggestions are made in the hope of doing away what cannot but be viewed at first sight as real evils and defects.

But before ~~that~~ it will be necessary to declare that the army and others are not altogether unprejudiced judges as to the efficiency of the Commissariat; and even the Government were beginning after the Burmah war, to lose sight of the difference between enormous expenditure and the unsatisfactory state of efficiency of establishments under the old contract system, contrasted with the regulated expences and capabilities of their own department: while they were frequently disposed to listen to the idle complaints and interested suggestions which were not unfrequently reaching them. At the old sources of emoluments from supplies and agencies and establishments, in former times the almost recognized and avowed *right* of the various Staff and others, had been destroyed by the institution of the Commissariat. The provision of boats, cattle, supplies, &c. are now not vested in fortunate individuals, as in Lord Lake's and former eras, but are supplied by the Government itself, though the medium of its own regular and responsible establishment. That the department was viewed with no pleasing feeling was too apparent on its organization; and it required the strong support of authority to carry it through the first ordeal of dislike, and extensive opposition every where experienced. No wonder then that the points in which the Commissariat has failed (and such failure cannot but be confessed) have ever been dwelt upon and magnified; and while in real exertions and main efficiency there has been much to approve, the still frequent deficiencies in *portions* of supply, and the personal annoyances to which the army has been subjected at times, particularly during the Burmah war, have formed loud and unceasing subjects of allegation.

The army complains that the department, although the commissariat officers esteem themselves to be military, and as a part of the general staff, yet they withhold themselves from due military controul; and that the Government, in its civil or financial capacity, is more attended to, and obeyed, than the General Officer, and other authorities in immediate military command. Thus a General of a Division is hampered on distant service by regulations and decisions of audit, and his wishes and practical views are always met by his Commissariat Department directing his attention to rules and Government orders regarding mere matters of finance, mere forms and audit restrictions.

In the above there is somewhat of objection, and there is a want of defining in the matter that may perplex all parties. The Commanding Officer can enforce, it is true, his wishes if he pleases, in defiance of any regulation of the service; but he does this only at his personal risk and pecuniary responsibility. Again, the Commissariat Officer is between two difficulties; he himself, also, is personally retrenched for obedience to these orders and disregard of rules, while his own good sense might point out that his compliance with

superior orders on the spot has been not only reasonable but expedient. The Government very wisely will never leave *all* to the pleasure and caprices of those in command where it affects so much its own interests and resources; but certainly the Commissariat Officer should be bound to obey the requisitions of his General, and be held harmless himself for such obedience, while it should be sufficient for the General Officer, without difficulty, to explain his own orders to the Government and obtain at once a full sanction and approbation. It is true this last is stated to be what is recognized by the Government, but the real fact is that rules, forms, and audit arrangements are obstinately enforced whatever the situation or circumstance under which they are to be applied, and Military Authorities shrink from what they would at times propose from the dread of too much after-responsibility and exposure to difficulty in a matter of finance. In cantonments the objection is also spoken of. But the Government here very properly seem to wish that all shall be regular and in due form, and that the controul and custody of their public cattle, supplies and carriage, &c. shall be vested only with those responsibly and actually in charge. We have adverted at length to this objection, as it was much dwelt upon by a late Adjutant General, as hampering operations in the field. A code of general instructions might be prepared, however, without much difficulty, which would authorize Generals of Divisions to escape the difficulty under circumstances which might be sufficiently outlined or even well defined for guidance in such matters. It is also objected that in cantonments the Commissariat is too independent of immediate local controul. This may be the case as regards the Commissariat Officer himself, and the direct supervision of his office and duties, but in regard to the cattle and military equipments, the Commanding Officer has every possible proper authority; their state of efficiency is under his constant inspection and report. Had he more, it would be simply placing the public establishments and cattle under his orders, and in some cases very possibly, for his personal use, or that of his friends. It might nevertheless be better for the state, if Division Commissariat Offices were more open to some superior controul than at present. The Heads of the Department seldom visit them in person; and thus any office mismanagement may be perpetuated for months or years, without remedy, or even detection. It is not enough that an officer gives security, or is himself honourable; for common inattention on his part, bad habits of business, want of form and method, favoritism towards the native underlings, or misplaced confidence, must beget an improper system of duty under him: yet this is only to be detected at present by actual unfortunate results. Now a better mode of frequent personal check and visitorial inspection by authorized superiors would prevent neglect or error *in limine*; accounts would be better *brought up*, executive duties more rigidly performed, and efficiency in every branch of detail more ensured than at present. A Commissariat Officer, with a clever native accountant, can always make his *monthly* accounts close, and seem perfectly correct, and regular; while, possibly, the items, daily-books, and component accounts are yet got together in an unsa-

tisfactory and slovenly manner, and neither proper record, system, nor method, observed in any branch of the accounts except the monthly formula handed to the Board. Again, supplies of grain, &c. may be granted to favorites of the head natives, or improper persons may undertake them simply from the personal inattention, love of ease, or blindness of the officer; but the frequent inspection on the spot of a superior into all these matters would beget circumspection and increased activity of controul every where. It might be beneficial then if the Commissary General, or his Deputy, or any nominated assistant were obliged, *half yearly*, at least, to visit every office, and report to the Government on the accounts, establishment, and every branch of internal management. In certain points for which rules might easily be framed, two senior officers of the Station or Division might be conjoined with the inspecting Commissary General, or Deputy, or Assistant, as Commissioners (the Commissary General &c. being Senior Commissioner). This would be satisfactory in many respects;—the Commissariat Officer would half yearly find himself, after the inspection, on clear, safe, certified, and almost irresponsible ground;—the Commissary General or his Deputy would know accurately the details, and general duties of every Division, and the Government would gain by the reports the assured conviction that all was efficient. As it might however be inconvenient, or be supposed to betray an unnecessary and most ungrounded want of confidence in the Commissariat, to appoint these Station Commissioners, the Commanding Officer might, conjointly with the Commissary General or his Deputy, &c. inspect *half yearly* and certify as required. The present reports are too vague and general.

It is objected further, that in the present Commissariat too, much is left to Natives. In reply we assert, that it cannot be otherwise. Europeans are certainly desirable for bustling, and emergent activity, and perhaps a number of European or East Indian Youths brought up in the department as accountants and assistants might be eventually an advantage, but their commissariat education or apprenticeship must be a *sine qua non*: for nothing but local experience and departmental knowledge, bearing on the customs and resources of the country, would enable these successfully to supersede natives. But after all the natives are the main stay and actual working branch of the Commissariat; the Government have been hitherto strangely to blame, in our opinion, in not organizing from them a regular native branch of assistants and warrant officers on proper salaries, and scale of remuneration. The present idea of using Natives of respectability and substance on a nominal salary of thirty to sixty rupees a month, and expecting these men actually to disburse thousands of rupees and furnish competent security, is ridiculous! Government might easily organize a respectable and efficient branch of Subordinate Native Commissariat*, making them rise by seniority or rather by

* There are many well educated Native youths of the present day, who, after due apprenticeship, might be rendered valuable Commissaries, under the European officers, in a few years.

deal, tried trust-worthiness, and activity; and if the grades of these men were paid from eighty to even two or three-hundred rupees per month, the Government would be doubly and trebly gainers by the measure. Such responsible and respectable employment would ensure a better and more proper discharge of duty than at present, and in time, the seniors might take charge of smaller division offices, or of out-stations, and leave the European officers solely for tours of constant inspection. They might be called Native Commissaries, Assistant Native ditto, and Sub-assistant Native ditto. We would fearlessly assert that the expence of higher salary to these men would be a saving under proper regulation. We by no means suggest that they should supersede an *European* Commissariat; as at present, without it, efficiency and common fidelity of account would be hopeless.

We have heard it objected to the Commissariat that since its institution the price of grain and of necessaries and carriage, &c. has encreased. This we would deny, or at all events, that the Commissariat has occasioned the encrease. For until about ten years ago the Commissariat had nothing to do with the bazars; and the nerricks rested either with civil authorities, or other powers where the Commissariat had no interference. The present controul of bazars has succeeded, it must be confessed, very indifferently, but the prices of articles depend on circumstances far beyond the management of a local Commissary's supervision; and we question whether any fiscal, or Government interference would be of benefit. The older officers of the service always contend that under the former system of profit and duties levied by Commanding Officers, bazars were more efficient and better supplied, both as regards cheapness and abundance. But we have only *their* authority for this. An experiment in one or two bazars would soon put this to the test. Let an influential European, or East Indian, or Indigo Planter living at a station, form a sudder bazar under the same system of duties as formerly, and be officially appointed if necessary. The more *his* profit—the elders of the service would contend, the better the bazar. The question would soon be set at rest.

The Commissariat descriptions of carriage are objected to. It is true, no improvement has taken place—the same boats, the same poor hackeries, the same brinjaree bullocks, &c. are in use as formerly. But in regard to the river, the present boats are the best calculated for its navigation, particularly with the crews obtainable: and as nothing but superior equipment can render the native craft better or safer, there can be little done except "*finding*" the boats with more efficient cordage, &c. at an encreased expence. Any added stability to the boats themselves, must encrease their weight and draft of water. As for the hackeries, it would be useless with the existing roads in Bengal to introduce a train of spring carts, carriages or waggons, and at present there is little capability of improvement. As for the cattle, there has been for many years a considerable improvement in breed. At Madras,

where there is little water carriage, more attention has been paid necessarily to other means of conveyance; and yet, after all, how inadequate is their *public carriage* for all general purposes, with one of their best equipt detachments. Proof of this was not wanting in Ava. They were better off than the Bengal troops in this item,—but still how far removed from efficiency!

The next and grand objection to the constitution of the present Department is, the asserted unfitness of some of the officers for such employment; the improper selections in the first instance, and the unfit persons still continued on its list. In the original selection the Department is neither consulted nor to blame; and where such is the case, it has little right to dispossess itself of those who may be placed there by an authority far above its controul. But it became the fashion at one time to underrate and abuse the Department. As for its reported inefficiency in the Burmah war; the blame had no right to saddle itself on the Commissariat; without previous reference, concert, or arrangement, it was hastily thrown into a most unprecedented and unforeseen state of difficulty, where its own resources were utterly useless, and where the means placed, or gained to its disposal, were more scanty perhaps than have awaited any expeditionary warfare of the present age. Faults of situation, and of climate, nay, of sickness even, were fastened on the department; and in regard to expenditure, six months of supplies and the most complete field equipment for thirty thousand men were actually *thrown away* at Sylhet, from a hurried change of operations and a sudden abandonment of his plan by Sir Edward Paget. But to tax the Department under such circumstances with want of either energy, economy, or talent, is surely unfair. The truth is, that there is, and has been, as much average talent in the Commissariat as in any public department of the State. Colonels Paton and Weguelin were most superior; the latter possibly as good an office functionary and accountant, as could be met with in any country. There are at this moment some in the Department who are equal in general ability and active discharge of their duty to the first functionaries in Bengal.

Another objection we have heard is that the duty of the Commissariat is asserted to be too little open to public and general scrutiny. This, we know, is the received opinion; but in almost every case it is at variance with fact. Any privacy in office transactions is inimical to the instructions positively enjoined by Colonel Paton at the first organization of the Department; and contracts are ever made but by public notice; but at all events this objection could not have a shadow of foundation if the suggestions before given for the controul and half yearly inspection of all the various offices were adopted. We have heard another objection;—that the Officers of the Department hold themselves individually too high, and repel all complaints as supposed imputations on their management. Even friendly representations from Brother Officers are said to be rejected or disregarded. Instances of this may have occurred, but here too, the above suggestions would obviate the objections, as all com-

plaints must be, in such case, half-yearly attended to on the spot, and their matter enquired into if necessary, and promptly and summarily disposed of.

In a word the present constitution of the Department cannot well be bettered in its main principles. A Commissariat differently composed would be a dangerous experiment in a country like India; particularly with the working materials either disposable here, or procurable from Europe, for the purpose of hastily organizing a different one. Let the various executive officers be subject, if desired, to a closer and more frequent controul, and inspection. The officers themselves would wish it. Organize a subordinate class of regularly promoted and better paid NATIVE assistants, who will then be valuable public Officers, their very situation being a guarantee for their better conduct; but as for the European officers of the Department, instead of wishing them to be *unstaffed*, or lowered in estimation, by looking out for an unmilitary commissariat, we would suggest rather by every possible means to add to the military and staff feeling of the individuals; and as long as they are kept active and useful by frequent supervision—the higher and more honourable the estimation on which a Commissariat Officer is held, the better and safer for the Government.

RECOLLECTIONS OF A PRIVATE SOLDIER.

[The following sketch has already appeared in the pages of the *Calcutta Literary Gazette*; but as it furnishes a very fair epitome of the career of recruits under the Bombay Presidency, and as the facts it discloses are known to us* to be *literally true*, we offer no apology for republishing it here.—ED.]

It is now fifteen years since I descended from the sphere of *gentility* in which I was born and educated, and became a soldier in the Bombay artillery. The death of my father, a lawyer of considerable practice, had placed my mother in circumstances of great difficulty, which the wretched pittance of £ 20 a year I was receiving as a wine merchant's clerk, did not enable me to alleviate. I felt that I was still a burden to her, a draft on her slender resources she was ill able to acknowledge,—and I cast about night and day for an opportunity of relieving her of my presence, little deeming that in doing so I should encrease her load of suffering while I eased her pocket. After a month spent in fruitless schemes, my attention was attracted to a blue *affiche*, on a low wall near our house at Cumberwell, inviting "intelligent and active young men" to enter the service of the E. I. C. where the reward "of high spirited" conduct was to be a "beautiful and fertile climate" and "respectable situations." This fixed my resolution. The next day I was at

* We furnished the article to the *Literary Gazette*.—ED. — U. S. I.

Soho Square, measured, described—blue eyes, fair hair, 5 feet 7, fine complexion, (I never knew till then I was so handsome) and enlisted; Sergeant Major King assured me I could not fail to get made a *writer* directly I arrived in India, and the Sergeant who took me before a magistrate to be attested would not allow me to walk with the other recruits “because” said he, “you are a gentleman.”

Heaven help me!—true enough they were but a ragged crew,—“but a shirt and a half in the whole company”—yet I was not then aware how soon blue jackets and pepper and salt unmentionables, felt castors and a firelock would place us on an equality, and merge my gentility into “No 16 of the rear rank”—their vulgarity and superior stature into “Nos. 1, 2 and 3 of the front.” We were attested, and I thought the magistrate looked upon me with an eye of compassion, somewhat offensive to my *military* pride. The party then repaired to a public house, and the shillings were devoted to beer in pewter pots and beefsteaks in wooden bowls. There was something so repulsively anti-aristocratic in the whole business that I paid my quota in advance and took my leave. Returning to Soho Square I asked the Sergeant Major what was the next step in my new career, and was informed that I must repair to Chatham; that the *varmint* recruits would be sent down to Gravesend in a packet under the charge of the Sergeant, but that I,—oh blest prerogative of gentle blood!—might go down alone, so that I did not delay my departure above a week. I thanked the Sergeant Major for his indulgent behaviour and went home. I imagined I had hit the nail on the head. My fortune, thought I, is made: the Company seem to set a proper value on gentlemen soldiers, and know when they have got a prize. Little did I then dream that all this blarney of Mr. King’s was but to blind me to the real state of affairs until I was too deeply into the mire to get out again;—little did I suppose that the discourse of gentility was, as the Sergeant Major himself would Hiberniously have expressed it, all “blather and skite!” I left my home, wrote a letter to my dear mother and went down to Chatham. Enquiring for the Barracks I was shewn up a hill, and, after walking half a mile, found myself in the middle of a spacious parade ground where a band was playing, and a number of *officers* and *ladies* were walking about on a terrace above,—a number of *men* and *women* were straggling on the trottoir below. Accosting a young officer of H. M.’s 90th Light Infantry, I begged to know which were the E. I. C. soldiers?—upon which he pointed out a few cadets of engineers who were doing duty with the sappers and miners. I surveyed them for some time, and at last ventured to ask one if he belonged to the artillery, and to tell me where I was to go to get lodged, clothed, &c. He inquired into the particulars of my *ordination*, and on being told the story of the Sergeant Major and the shilling and the steaks and the Gravesend boat, assumed an incomprehensible, supercilious air, and said ‘Oh my *man*’ (there was a cut) “you had better go to Sergeant Major Juncau!” and wheeling on his heel he walked away. Now, as I did not

know Mr. Juneau from the Bishop of London, I waited till dusk, slunk out of the barrack yard, supped at Brompton, and early next morning returned to the barracks and asked a sentry at the gate. He, however, made no reply but, "Och! are ye not a broth of a boy to be spaking to a man on his post?" Determined not to be daunted I walked on and at the first turning or division (as I afterwards found it was called) found a little red faced, grey haired, smug gentleman in a red coat covered with gold lace, and a blue cloth cap similarly adorned. "Pray Sir" said I, in a peculiarly mellifluous tone of voice "can you direct me to one Mr. Juneau?" "I am he," answered the interrogated, "what do you want?" I explained the situation in which I stood, and my wishes in regard to costume, refection, and quarters. "Oh" said my friend "you are one of the new squad, I'll see to you my man" (*my man again!*) "Here, Sergeant McCleod (this to a brawny Scot with iron features and a sharp grey eye) "let this recruit mess and sleep with you till his party can be numbered off, and let Drummer Wilson crop his wig!"—Gracious Heavens! squad,—recruit,—numbered off,—sleep with a Scotch Sergeant and be cropped by a drum boy! "Mr. Juneau" said I, half apprehensive "I imagine you are under a mistake;—I am going out to be a *writer*;—I am not *exactly* on a footing with the rest" for so the Soho Sergeant had taught me. "A writer! you shall be governor of the Ingees if you like, when you get there, but while here you must obey orders and do your duty like a man:—come be off!" You might have knocked me down with a feather—annihilated me with a straw,—but I saw the whole truth at a glance and, wondering at the dinness of my perception hitherto, surrendered myself quietly and went like a calf to the sacrifice. In a little week, yea but a week, I was cropped as close as a mangy dog, wore coarse habiliments, had learnt the use of pipe clay,—could turn to the right and turn to the left, had sold my hat to the pieman, my coat to milk ho!* and had discovered the legitimate absorber of a soldier's mess coppers to be—the canteen. It was in the month of May;—the last draft of recruits had just sailed for Bengal and the depôt was destitute of more than a dozen hands. But each week now brought new levies, and it was no small subject of satisfaction to me that one or two out of every party proved to be a *gentleman*, or at least a gentleman's son, —victims of fallacy,—gudgeons caught by the sergeant major and his accessory blue hand bills. I say it was a source of pleasure to me, for I longed for a few companions of genial sentiments and tolerable information, though I could not but sympathise with them in the deception they one and all felt had been too surely practised. There were among them decayed merchants, ruined Irish attorneys, medical men who had struggled vainly for practice, and military and naval officers who had on various grounds forfeited their commissions,—clerks, tradesmen, and mechanics,—and though a censorious world,

* Who that has resided in the Chatham Barracks does not remember that abominable dilute of the lactical fluid—that grey beard iniquity who preyed, and, for aught I know, still preys on the unwary recruit?

would sanction the conclusion, that where there was so much adversity there must have been much dereliction of principle, it was impossible for a feeling mind to contemplate the hourly humiliation of the well born and the well bred, without deep regret and fervent resentment. Often have I seen men of thirty years of age, of superior attainments and delicate sensibility, addressed in a tone of vulgar reproof by some illiterate corporal who had escaped from the plough, and obtained promotion by joining the *depôt* at an early period, and rapidly acquiring an erect carriage and a tolerable acquaintance with the mysteries of manual platoon; often too have I watched the heaving of the "big, manly" breast, and the silent course of the burning tear, as it stole down the cheek of the sentry presenting arms to those whose equal he had been, and who yet were equalled by his relatives *at home*. But it is needless to dwell on the many distressing scenes to which I was a daily witness, or to trace the gradual progress of our familiarity with vice and coarseness. Eight months passed over my head while on duty at this *depôt*, during which time the recruits had increased in number to nearly a thousand, and I had attained the rank of sergeant; and had become so far reconciled to my situation that I determined to endure all sufferings with patience, until a change of scene should bring a change of fortune.

It was in depth of winter 1818, the 15th December, as I remember,—when the morning parade drum summoned a general attendance on the grand parade ground. In a few minutes we had all fallen in and were at "attention!"—when Colonel Hay, the commandant of the *depôt*, addressed us from the centre to the effect that the time was come for us to prepare to depart for India,—that no further pass notes, or furloughs would be granted, and that those who preferred, for any particular reasons, one presidency to another would have the liberty of choice. What a multitude of strange, indefinable sensations were produced by this announcement! To some it brought (as they then supposed) a termination to vile drudgery and low association; it spoke of coming liberty and an *El Dorado*. With many,—I am happy to say the most notorious for loose principles and low origin—it was the signal for cowardly desertion; to others, and myself amongst the number, it was an awful indication of an approaching separation from one's native county,—it was the very touchstone of our fate, and threatened either to set the seal on the degradation we had but half courted, or promised a restoration to that sphere from which we had descended.

My temperament being naturally sanguine, Hope took a higher place in my bosom than Apprehension, and I applied myself to consider which Presidency it was the most desirable to resort to. I had no friends any where, but I had somewhere read or heard that Bombay was the most healthy station, and from the state of politics most likely to give early occupation to the military. Moreover, all those intelligent and well conducted soldiers with whom I had been most intimate, made their election in favor of Madras or

Bengal, whence I inferred that my own chances of preferment were small, seeing that I could not hope to compete with so many persons of superior acquirements; add to this, that my friends in London held out some promises of using interest in my favor at Bombay. To Bombay therefore I resolved to go.

Pass we over the minute details of the most wretched period of my,—aye and of every soldier's existence,—the voyage out to India;—disgusting reminiscence of a stinking orlop deck, salt beef, sea sickness, filthy water, a duck frock,—objects of pity to the well-bred and well dressed passengers,—objects of contempt and mockery to the ignorant, uncouth mariner! We reached Bombay late in the month of May, and after being presented with our coarse regimentals and a dollar, were landed and marched to the town barracks*.

The Battalion, for then our corps consisted of but one Battalion, was at that time cantoned in the neighbourhood of a picturesque village 9 or 10 miles distant from the Fort of Bombay, and, by an injudicious, though possibly well meant regulation, the recruits were permitted to go at large for three days previous to their being marched to Head Quarters. To the more rational, and few indeed were they, this was agreeable and beneficial, for it enabled them to see a little of the town, and learn from the sergeant who had charge of them what they had to expect on joining the corps. But to the great majority the indulgence was hailed as affording an opportunity for every species of excess. The form of a roll-call or muster was gone through every evening, but out of 300 recruits who had been landed, not more than 40 were reported "present,"—the rest came, or were brought in, on the last day of grace, exhausted by inebriety, bruised, tattered, sick and impoverished. I have no doubt that these three days laid the foundation for more disease and misery in the regiment than a whole year of hard duty. I believe the custom is now discontinued.

We were marched into cantonments in the cool of the evening of the fourth day after our liberation from the dirt and confinement of the orlop deck, and the abuse of the gun deck, and found a repast of tea, potatoes and dried bummelows had been prepared for us. During this refection "the old hands" (as those who had arrived the previous year or earlier were termed) crowded round us, and two of the *most gentlemanly* did me the honor to select me for their particular notice. To them my enquiries were eagerly directed. What were the means of escape from military duty? (a precious question for a soldier)—what the chances of promotion for *gens comme il faut*? "Ah" said one of my new acquaintances, "I see, like many more you have been inoculated with unfortunate notions

* Extensive barracks in the Fort of Bombay.

regarding this service, and imagine, upon what grounds it is difficult to conjecture, that the Company merely enlist gentlemen to have the pleasure of supporting them until they get to India, as cadets think that regiments are mere temporary repositories for Staff officers.*" Though a little alarmed at this remark I could not help repeating my questions, adding "I suppose that *all* I have heard is not false?" The party addressed replied, "my good fellow, you may depend upon it every thing you have learnt is *humbug* from beginning to end. You have become a soldier; *as a soldier* you may expect as easy a life as falls to the lot of that class, and you *may* become a sergeant, a sub-conductor, a writer, or a *clerk*, and, in time, a conductor. But these two last, excepting in one or two rare and singular cases, form the *ne plus ultra* of our views: attain them and you become in the estimation of the Company's officers a respectable person in your way; but in thirty years you will make no closer approximation to the dignity of an ensign, and a return to your native country, excepting as a wretched invalid or a decayed pensioner on a miserable stipend, is quite out of the question." Saying this he sighed and walked away. A feeling of sickness came over me, and I was giving way to despondency when the other, a more lively fellow, addressed me, asking if I was any thing of an actor, for that a play was on the tapis, and (whispered he) it is a *sure step to promotion*! I started at this and begged this spark to tell me if what I had just heard from the last speaker was really the case. "Oh yes" answered he, "we are all regularly *booked* here; so d—n it, put a bold face on the business and be merry while you can." My heart sunk within me;—all, all my little hopes were withered! I was in a distant climate, away from every friend,—and the avenues to preferment, through which ambitious men may honorably career, were for ever closed against me, thus depriving me of the only consolation by which I had hitherto been supported. I was agonized, and flung myself on my humble cot overwhelmed with tears.

The fatigue of a ten mile march and the exhaustion of spirits produced by the excited state of my feelings sent me to sleep. When I awoke the next morning it was not to mourn my desolate condition, but to enquire how far, on the whole, I had a right to complain of a situation in which I had voluntarily placed myself? The East India Company had held out certain promises in their blue bills, and, on the strength of them, I had sold my liberty and my services. Had those promises been violated?—I could not deny the *fertility of the climate*—that was one inducement to expatriation;—I could not gainsay the *respectability* of the situations open to soldiers of intelligence; for though this respectability was but *comparative*, yet the integrity of the title remained unaffected. The Company, therefore, had used no unfair

* I believe this fallacy is nearly extinct and officers have as much pride in performing regimental duty creditably, as in figuring on the staff. At the time however the above speech was made (1819) I suspect that few persons accepted commissions without strong faith in the notion that they would soon get on staff employ.

means to seduce me into their employ. The sergeant major,—had he deceived me in his constant reference to my gentility? Assuredly not. Rightly interpreted, his conduct was but the suggestion of a generous nature sympathising with misfortune. He could not, without disloyalty, or a breach of duty, advise me to avoid a service which he was employed and paid to recommend, and therefore since he saw me bent on enlisting, he exerted his ingenuity to render the first stages of my career as pleasant as his office could permit. A brief course of reasoning brought me to these conclusions, and I henceforth resolved to bear the disappointment with fortitude, and content myself with my lot.

At gun-fire, or sun-rise, the bugle sounded a parade, and we recruits were told off into drill squads. As I had been a sergeant* it was inferred that I had acquired a tolerable knowledge of my duties and I was therefore placed in the first squad. In less than a month I was engaged in the practical duties of a gunner, and could fire a mortar without wincing. Fortunately I enjoyed good health, although the savage who then filled the office of adjutant caused us to be drilled while the rain poured in torrents over our heads, and we stood for 2 or 3 hours up to our ancles in mud and water. Many of our comrades died of dysentery and cholera produced by this cruel treatment, and vacancies at length became so numerous that within four months of my service I was promoted to corporal. Other circumstances contributed to this promotion. Soon after our arrival the men were allowed to write to England to their friends, but as the greater part could not write or were unequal to the composition of a letter, I was requested to act as amanuensis, which I did in so many instances that the adjutant, who read every letter before it went to the post office, was attracted by the hand-writing, and finding *who* was the scribbler, appointed me his clerk and took a fancy to me. Besides, we had a theatre, of which the adjutant was manager, and my humble histrionic efforts drew forth his applause and *entitled me* to regimental advancement. I say nothing of the equity of this proceeding:—it speaks for itself. I am only happy in being able to add that dramatic capacity is not *now a days* a passport to promotion.

Very soon after my promotion, the Bombay Government, in the month of October, determined to send an expedition to the Persian Gulf in order to put an end to the piratical doings of the Joasmees. Volunteers being invited, I gladly seized the opportunity of seeing a little service, and of visiting a part of the world in which it might not be my fortune to be again thrown. Moreover, life in cantonments was sadly monotonous, for *then* we had no

* It is a common practice to deprive all the recruits of this dignity on their arrival in India and to let them start afresh in their career. The plan is a bad one, for as they know, when in England and on the voyage, that their rank is but temporary, they are deterred from a just exercise of their authority by the apprehension of retaliation on the part of the men when they join their regiment abroad and sink to a level with them. The nominal rank of lance corporal at least might be preserved to them, if only for the sake of protecting them from such vengeance.

libraries or newspapers, as now,—no canteens, no institutions for the acquirement of mathematical and geometrical knowledge. I had a stronger inducement however than these for joining the warlike throng,—the suggestions of *friendship*. John P., a gunner in the same company with myself, had acquired so complete a hold on my affections that I felt it would have been easier to have parted with life than with his society. He was an Irishman by birth, and possessed in an eminent degree all the virtues and most of the vices of his countrymen; brave, generous, intelligent, sincere, he united with these qualities a bitter and relentless spirit of revenge for injuries inflicted, a daring hostility to the government, a looseness of principle and a melancholy devotion to the bottle. The exercise of his vices had utterly prevented the officers of his regiment from doing justice to his better parts, and accounted for his remaining after six years service a private gunner, or matross as they were then called, while men immeasurably his inferiors had attained to the highest grades within their reach. Often did it happen that when a generous officer was on the point of rewarding P.'s temporary correctness of conduct by a trifling promotion, a report was brought him that the object of his kindness was absent from duty, or in a state of beastly intoxication. This man won my regard at a very early part of my service by a kind and unceasing attention to all my little wants; he was capable of *advising* well,—he would fight my battles, shewed an unaffected interest in my advancement, and, for my sake, would often abstain from his favourite indulgences. He was too a most interesting and agreeable companion. His mind was richly stored with knowledge. The dead and living languages were equally familiar to him, and he possessed a fine poetic vein which enabled him, on divers occasions, to produce some exceedingly respectable rhymes:—a fragment of one of his prologues to our humble performances is before me, and I give it you in proof of the ability he displayed.

Forc'd forward—in an humble cause to plead,
 A timid advocate—confus'd, dismay'd,
 At this tribunal with submission stands
 To deprecate your frowns, engage your hands.
 A tender scion of dramatic sort
 Requires this night your fostering support—
 Cherish'd—it blooms—its sweets and flowers arise,
 Blasted by apathy—it falls—and dies!
 Could memory, pouring o'er the raptur'd mind
 Pourtray those scenes reluctantly resigned—
 Retrace the splendid pile—the concave wide
 Raised by a state in Architecture's pride
 Our plain, ungilded stage, you'd scorn we fear.
 And for its homeliness, condemn the cheer
 Say—shall the unassuming strait bamboo
 Obtain the meed to polished pillars due?
 Or can the useful cocoa branch procure
 The plaudits gaudy roofs alone ensure?

* * * * *

Our Dames are Cannoneers !
 Let not the formidable sound amaze ye !
 Equipped in stays, they strive to night to please ye,
 And leaving keener weapons hope, in form
 With *peaceful petticoats* your hearts to storm !
 * * * * *

Pleas'd then the critics privilege forego
 On humble amateurs support bestow
 And let your hands your hearts' contentment shew.

P— was likewise in the habit of scribbling lampoons upon the martinets of the regiment, which often proved an excellent salve to a sore back, or filled up the intestinal cavities occasioned by a fortnight's residence in the conjec house.

Out of my love for this highly gifted but wayward man, I came to the resolution to join the expedition to the gulph of Persia, and accordingly enrolled myself amongst the volunteers ; we were all full of hope—buoyant with expectation—and not a little elevated in the eyes of our comrades, — for it was known that we were now going to deal with an enemy, who, though equally undisciplined with the Maharatta, was possessed of more bravery, and likely to offer much more vigorous opposition to our invasion. On the day fixed by Government we marched down to the presidency and embarked under the eyes of Sir Wm. Grant Keir, the officer commanding the expedition, on board one of the spacious vessels in the country trade, which had been taken up as a transport. The same evening we sailed with a favourable breeze,—twelve fine large ships under convoy of a British man-of-war, and bearing five thousand fighting men, nearly 2500 of whom were Europeans. In the course of ten days we reached Muscat and were joined by a considerable nautical force of the Imaum of Muscat, and in ten more we were in sight of the fort of Ras-el Khyma, the strong holds of the Joasmee Arabs. The vessels in the van now lay to until all the rest hove in sight, when signals were made to rendezvous at a particular spot within a moderate distance of the fortress. It was evening when all the ships joined, and one or two days before any preparation could be made for landing.

In the mean time the Arabs were mustering in strong force, and strengthening their fortifications, evidently anticipating an awful attack. Early on the third morning of our arrival the landing commenced, and never shall I forget the enthusiasm that prevailed fore and aft in our vessel ! While the flank companies of H. M.'s 47th and 65th Regiments were going off to skirmish and clear the ground, we of the artillery were getting our howitzers into the boats and succeeded in reaching the shore very shortly after the skirmishers. Captain Collier of H. M.'s ship Liverpool had sent several of his seamen to assist in the labor of landing the guns, erecting batteries and planting our artillery, and it was really as much as we could do to get through the work

for laughter. Jack's singular oaths, his aspirations after the eternal condemnation of the Arabs, his ship-shape mode of doing business, exhibiting so striking a contrast to our military proceedings, were all so many subjects of diversion and tended to impede while they lightened labor. By the evening of the first day we had got up a stout four gun battery, for the beach, being sandy, supplied us with plenty of pabulum for our bags and baskets; we had moreover landed a very large proportion of our troops. The Arabs molested us a good deal while we were at work; but the activity of the flank companies who, in the course of the day, received support and relief from the sepoy regiments, sufficiently punished them for their temerity, and prevented their offering any very serious obstruction.

Night fell, and the picquets being placed with orders to keep a sharp look out, we lay down on our sand bags to repose preparatory to the siege, which was to commence on the morrow. In a few hours sleep and silence pervaded the camp;—not a sound was to be heard but the "All's Well" of the picquets, and the occasional tramp of the relief. It was very dark, and might have been near midnight, when all on a sudden, a faint cry followed by a groan was heard near our battery, then another cry, then a shot—two—three shots. In an instant we were all on our legs, and mingling in a bloody fray. It was impossible to distinguish friend from foe in the dreadful confusion and obscurity that prevailed. The powerful principle of self preservation, however, was soon in operation, and the countersign of the night quickly adopted as the only means of warding off a comrade's thrust or a comrade's blow. The enemy had surprised our camp—"Ullah-il-Ullah!" and "Bismillah!" mingled with the watchword and "England for ever;" and the din and clash of arms, accompanied by the hollow drum, the bugle, the hurrah of the sailor, and the authoritative shouts of the centurion, announced the dire conflict of Moslem and of Christian. The strife lasted for an hour, by the end of which time scarcely a foe was to be found in the camp; a muster then took place, and the troops were kept under arms until daylight, when a sad picture presented itself. No less than eight of our company—a great number when the numerical strength of the artillery is considered—lay stretched in their gore. Five of them had evidently been killed before they had had time to shake off the lethargy of slumber; but the other three lay with their swords in their hands which bore indubitable marks of having been steeped in the blood of their adversaries. One of them, a remarkably fine lad named D—t, lay on his antagonist—his bloody fingers grasping the throat of the Arab, his sword through the Arab's body—while the Islamite's weapon, stained with red, shewed what arm had inflicted the death wound on poor D.'s head. It was a horrible picture. The picquets, it appeared, had been stolen upon by the Arabs on all fours, and mortal wounds in many instances inflicted before they could have been aware of the proximity of an enemy.

• The blow we had received during the night was a spur to our exertions ; it shewed us the daring kind of opponent we had to deal with, and added a zest to our spirit of hostility. With the dawn we commenced battering the fortress, and made breaches in two of the curtains. The enemy answered us vigorously, and one of their earliest shots killed the gallant Major Molesworth of H. M.'s 47th Regiment. By the next morning, however, with the help of a smaller mortar battery, we had completely laid open all the towers ; upon which a chosen storming party advanced and in a brief space cleared the ramparts of the besieged, and planted the British standard. The main body of the force then invested the town, and a scene of plunder took place more gratifying to our individual cupidity than creditable to our national character. It is due to the gallant Sir W. G. Keir to say, that the pillaging part of the story was entirely opposed to his orders, and was merely overlooked by him in consideration of what we endured, and of the trifling nature of the prizes thus obtained. A few Persian carpets and some bags of Venetians constituted the sum total of the captured property.

Many acts of gallantry distinguished the siege and storming of Ras-el-khyma, but it would be difficult for one who was himself deeply engaged throughout the day to enumerate them. We levelled the fortress to the dust—then proceeded to destroy other small defences—burnt all the Dows and Piratical vessels that could be found, and compelled the chiefs of the Joasmees to agree to certain obligations which involved the future cessation of piracy. This being done, and a corps of observation being left on the island of Kishma in the Persian Gulph, the force returned to Bombay to receive the thanks of the Government and the applause of our countrymen. Considerable prize money was subsequently distributed, but the share of the poor soldier was, as usual, but a miserable mite compared with the lion's portion.

The exploits of the Artillery during the expedition were the all engrossing topic in our barracks for some time after our return, and P. immortalized them in a song, which, to this day, is roared out to the tune of "*auld lang syne*," whenever we are sufficiently flush of the mopusses to have a merry making over a camp kettle of Batavian arrack punch. • I here give you the song, and, I dare say, you will allow that it is not deficient in poetic merit, and genuine fervor.

Song—The Bombay Cannoneers.

On fam'd Arabia's arid coast,
Our laurels fresher grew,
The Moslem corsair's ruined boast,
Proclaims it but too true ;
There—mur'd'rous piracy no more
In bloody crest appears,
Then—seize the cup, and toast the corps
Of Bombay Cannoneers.

Though hardships greater than alledg'd
 Oft times our joys invade,
 We've bargain'd for it, our faith is pledg'd,
 And danger is our trade :
 But here's a medicine to restore
 Delight—and banish cares,
 Then seize, &c. &c.

When duty's period shall arrive,
 And *home* rejoice our souls,
 When past affection shall revive,
 To bless our social bowls ;
 With wond'rous tales of Indian lore
 Among our old compeers,
 We'll seize, &c. &c.

Assemble comrades, round the cot*
 Bencoolen's nectar foams,
 What, though a foreign clime's our lot,
 Though sever'd from our homes—
 Shall soldiers trifling ills deplore,
 Give way to senseless tears ?
 No !—seize the cup, &c. &c.

'Tis true, at times, fleet fancy strays
 To native happy fields,
 And mem'ry with regret portrays
 The sweets our island yields ;
 But still, we've comfort, lads, in store,
 This bev'rage sorrow cheers,
 Then seize the cup, &c. &c.

Throughout Hindostan's fertile plains,
 Despite her Pagan sons,
 St. George's cross triumphant reigns,
 Supported by our guns ;
 Ev'n yet the glorious thund'ring roar.
 The scared Mahratta hears—
 Then seize the cup, &c. &c.

I was now to all intents and purposes a soldier,—I could speak of 'sallies and retires' of the ear piercing fife—the cannon's roar, of "bloody noses and cracked crowns." I had moreover attained the rank of serjeant, and affected no dislike to "Bencoolen's nectar." Gentility and gentlemanly nicety—in short, every sentiment of delicacy and vestige of sensibility, had been blunted or effaced, and I now looked to the rank of conductor not as a piece of promotion that would raise me nearer to the level of gentlemen, but as a step that was valuable only in proportion as it augmented my *authority*, for

*. This was a favourite rendezvous ;—the cot or bed of one individual was occupied by some half dozen, who, with a kettle of punch before them quaffed, laughed and sang until the tattoo beat to rest.

which I had acquired a vulgar kind of passion. Months passed away, during which I held charge of a small detachment in a very healthy part of the coast,—Severndroog, and I had begun to entertain some hope of being removed to the duties of the Arsenal, when an order was received for the immediate departure of the detachment to join a *second* expedition to the Persian Gulph. It seems the Arabs had violated their treaty, and falling upon the small force we had left behind, had *all but* annihilated it. To avenge this outrage another expedition was fitted out. I will not trouble the reader with its details. We suffered severe loss, particularly in another night attack, but did not leave the Gulph until every atom of the Islamite power had been swept away.

Over the rest of my recollections I am anxious to draw a veil. P. soon died of a diseased leg, and in a state of horrible chriety. My own *penchant* for the bottle had, I am ashamed to confess, fearfully increased, and being on more than one occasion somewhat *disguised* during the performance of my duty, I was placed under arrest, tried by a court martial and reduced to the grade of gunner. From that moment I lost all self respect. I now do my duty sullenly and mechanically;—my evil propensities cling to me in spite of manifold virtuous endeavours to cast them off, and I look forward with anxiety to the expiration of my period of service and my consequent transmission to England on one shilling per day.

Reader, my story conveys a moral, and a precept, which, if your sagacity has not helped you to discover them, I will here propound :—

“ Pitch defileth—evil communication corrupts good manners.” This is the moral of my tale.

“ Enter not into obligations with the hope of being able to evade the performance of your share of the contract.” There is my precept. I prithee cherish it.

Poonah, November 1832.

A SENTINEL.

THE NIZAM'S ARMY.

(By a Correspondent of the *Hurkaru*.)

The Nizam's Army at present consists (exclusive of the garrison and Invalid Battalions, and the Medical List) of seventy-two officers, thirty-five of whom belong either to H. M. or H. C. service and the remainder locals divided into classes or grades as follow :—

<i>Class.</i>	<i>Rank.</i>	<i>King or Company's Service.</i>	<i>Local.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1	Commandants of Divisions,	5	0	5
2	Captains Commandant,.....	a 15	3	18
3	Captains,	4	15	19
4	Lieutenants,	11	19	30
Total,...		35	37	72

(a) There is a vacancy, the senior holds a Brigade Majorship, but at present is in charge of the division.

From the above it will be seen that out of twenty-three officers composing the two senior grades, only three are locals or upwards of six to one in favor of H. M. or H. C. officers.

The Staff appointments in the Army are fifty-four (exclusive of the bazar masters, two of which have been abolished, the other two are soon to follow) and are disposed of as follow :—

<i>Department.</i>	<i>Appointment.</i>	<i>King's or Company's Service.</i>	<i>Local.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
General Staff.	Commandants of Divisions, ...	5	0	5
	Military Secretary,.....	0	1	1
	Paymasters,.....	1	a 4	5
	Brigade Majors,	b 2	1	3
Civil...	Superintendent of Districts, ...	c 5	d 3	8
	Commandants of Cavalry,	4	1	5
Regimental Staff.	of Artillery, ...	4	0	4
	of Engineers, ...	1	0	1
	of Infantry,	e 6	2	8
	Adjutants of Cavalry,.....	3	2	5
	of Engineers,.....	1	0	1
	of Infantry,	2	6	8
Total Staff Appointments in the Nizam's Army,.....		34	20	54
Deduct a vacancy in the command of a Regiment and the civil duties of a district in charge of an officer not connected with the Nizam's service included in this column,.....		2	0	2
Nett Appointments at present held by officers in the Nizam's Army,.....		32	20	52

It will be seen by this statement that out of 52 appointments 32 are held by 30 officers of H. M. or H. C. service, and the remaining 20 are held by 19 local officers. One of these locals in the enjoyment of one of the best appointments, both in point of consequence and allowances, was re-admitted into the service only three or four months ago, to the prejudice and I may add injury of almost all the locals, whose services extend from five to twenty-two years in the Nizam's Army. This officer was formerly in the civil employ of H. H. the Nizam, but was never considered attached to the Army.

(a) One of these has just entered the service. I have included him in the Captains in which rank his allowances are drawn.

(b) One of these at present in charge of a division as above-mentioned.

(c) Two of these officers are Commandants of Cavalry and another is not connected with the service.

(d) One of these officers commands a Regiment of Infantry.

(e) One of these commands is vacant at present, but as the last incumbent belonged to the Company's service, I have included it in this column.

SCENES IN MILITARY LIFE.

No. 11.

Dramatis Personæ.

Captain Everhard,	89th N. I.	Lieut. Wotherspoon D. J. A. Genl.
Lieut. Quick,	92d N. I.	Ens. Guinea Pig, 101st N. I. D. A. C. Gl,
Dr. Clear'em well,	92d N. I.	

LADIES.

Mrs. Cleaver, wife of a Captain in the 92d N. I.

Mrs. Wotherspoon, (*nova nupta.*)

Miss Jemima Cleaver.

*Scene. Mess Room of the 101st N. I. Time ½ past 7, a public night.
Dinner on the table.*

Captain Everhard.—Allow me, Mrs. Wotherspoon, to send you a little fish.

Mrs. Wotherspoon.—No I thank you, I will trouble Mr. Guinea Pig for a little of that nice looking cutlet.

<i>Lieutenant Quick.</i>	} <i>both speaking at the same time</i>	{	Miss Cleaver, the honor of a glass
<i>Ens. Guinea Pig.</i>			of wine ?
			The pleasure of a glass of wine,
			Miss Cleaver ?

Miss Cleaver.—(*Pretending not to hear Quick.*) With much pleasure. (*to G. P.*)

Lieut. Quick.—(*aside, but half audible.*) That would not have occurred a week ago.—Vive la Commissariat ! That's all L—d W—n's doing.

Captain Everhard.—Precious lot of sins, he's got to answer for ! What has Jemima cut you, Quick ? (*whispering.*)

Lieut. Quick.—No, not exactly, but "*Sugars is riz*" since last month—at all events—in Mamma's estimation, that's all (*aside to Everhard.*)

Everhard.—Never mind, old chap, "*there's as good fish in the sea as ever came out of it.*"

Miss Cleaver.—Indeed, Mr. Guinea Pig, I think it is a very nice book, and I wonder at your not liking it. It is a *leetle* stupid in some parts, but there are some very pretty stories in it.

Mrs. Cleaver.—What book are you talking of, my dear ?

Miss Cleaver.—Oh ! mamma, the East Indian Sketch Book that we got the other day.

Mrs. Cleaver.—Oh ! that book. I wonder people will make themselves so foolish as to write about things they do not understand.

Captain Everhard.—Yes, as our Mofussil Editors do about the Military Orphan School—the Retiring Fund—the Steam Subscription—and Political Economy.

Mrs. Cleaver.—For my own part, I think the anti or, whoever he is, has shewn himself quite unacquainted with good society. Why, what frights he has made his ladies.—Look at his “TOUR OF VISTRS” and then his “MANAGEMENT”—as if ladies could think of nothing but blue stockings—each other’s age—and finessing in real life.

Ensign Guinea Pig.—I quite agree with you, Mrs. Cleaver, he is evidently a Yahoo. Do not you think so Miss Cleaver?

Mrs. Cleaver.—(To her daughter who is talking to Quick.) Jemima my dear, how rude you are. There is Mr. Guinea Pig talking to you and your back turned to him.

Miss Cleaver.—Indeed, Mamina, I beg Mr. Guinea Pig’s pardon.—But Mr. Quick here was repeating such funny passages out of the book that—

Mrs. Cleaver.—Never mind the book now; you can read it again you know. (Aside and to herself)—There she goes again giggling like a fool and young Grambags speaking to her.

Lieut. Wotherspoon.—Miss Cleaver, allow me the honor of a glass of wine?

Miss Cleaver.—Very sorry, I am just engaged to Mr. Quick.

Lieut. Wotherspoon.—Perhaps you will permit me to join you?

Lieut. Quick.—Far beyond my deserts—unexpected pleasure. }

Miss Cleaver.—Certainly, Sir. }

Both at once. Nods and winks and wreathed smiles.

Lieut. Quick.—Well, but give us your opinion of the book, Mrs. Wotherspoon.

Mrs. Wotherspoon.—(Pouting—somewhat sulky—fancying herself neglected) What book? I—am—sure—I—have—no—time—to—be—read—ing—stupid—books—I—have we W, my love? (drawing)

Lieut. Wotherspoon.—No, indeed, my dear. In fact I hate books.

Mrs. Wotherspoon.—So do I now. I had rather listen to you than read the best book in the world.

Lieut. Wotherspoon.—Thank you, my love.

Lieut. Quick.—(Swagging to Everhard.)

Quis huic viro

Compararier ausit ?

Oh ! Hymenæ Hymen !

Captain Everhard.—(Laughs) Ha ! ha ! ha !

Mrs. Cleaver.—(With a face like the 'rare Kentucky halfhorse—half alligator with a squeeze of the earthquake in it') What—what's that Mr. Quick ? What's he saying Captain Everhard ?

Captain Everhard.—Only praising Hymen in the words of Catullus, only quoting a bit of Latin.

Miss Cleaver.—Oh ! do tell us what he said.

Mrs. Witherspoon.—Yes, do translate, Captain Everhard.

Captain Everhard.—My dear Ladies, ask Quick to give it you in English ; I could not think of taking liberties with his quotation.

Mrs. Cleaver.—Doctor, you know Latin—tell us what it was.

Doctor Clear'em well.—'Pon my soul, Madam, I can't tell. I know Latin enough to be able to read a prescription, but hang me, if I can come the Poets—they are out of my line all together. But I'll be happy to take a glass of wine with you, Mrs. Cleaver.

Mrs. Cleaver.—With much pleasure. But as to the Latin, I'm sure there must be something naughty in it or what objection could Mr. Quick have to translate it for us ?

Lieut. Quick.—'Pon my word, Mrs. Cleaver, you scarcely do me justice—I have no objection whatever to explain. I said, "What a fine thing matrimony is ; it makes every thing appear *couleur de rose*." In fact, I should be inclined myself to try my luck in the holy estate, but having lost my Staff appointment, I fear my chance of getting a wife is but small.

Miss Cleaver.—La ! how can you say so ! Mr. Quick, I am sure you would find plenty of ladies willing to take you.

Lieut. Quick.—(aside to Mrs. Cleaver.) Would you ?

Miss Cleaver.—(aside to Lieut. Quick) Ask Ma—

Mrs. Cleaver.—What's that you 're saying Jeemina ?

Lieut. Quick.—Miss Cleaver was telling me to ask you if you knew any young ladies who would be willing to take a young gentleman for better for worse ;—because a friend of mine told me to be on the look out.

Lieut. Wotherspoon.—What's your friend like, Quick? I know a very young Girl coming out.

Captain Everhard.—(*aside to Quick*) His own sister-in-law. (*aloud*) Come give us a rough sketch of your friend.

Mrs. Cleaver.—Yes, describe, and be a little particular in your expressions. Recollect there are girls in the room.

Lieut. Quick.—Hem! He is about my height, say 5 feet 10—moderately good looking—fine head of hair—well educated—gentlemanly—and second Lieutenant in his Regiment, out of debt, but without a stiver except his monthly pay. Will any one have him? Speak, Ladies.

Mrs. Cleaver.—Yes, there's Mrs. K—— the widow—(*commencing a catalogue.*)

Captain Everhard.—(*Giving a running accompaniment in a growling tone of voice.*) Far from young—four small children—a large foot and an unwearied tongue.

Lieut. Quick.—No, no! the widow won't pay. My friend does not agree with Moses who said of the old velvetens "*Shpetter ash new, fash tried.*" He will prefer a new pair.

Mrs. Cleaver.—Well, we'll think of some ladies for you by the time we meet in the drawing room; but there is Mrs. Wotherspoon nodding, so we will leave you to drink the ladies.

(*All rise—Exeunt fem. Ladies' health drank with the honors.*)

Captain Everhard.—Well Quick, now that the ladies have gone, let us have a confab. What did you think of the *United Service Journal* that arrived the other day?

Lieut. Quick.—Pleased and yet disappointed. Pleased at the Editor's zeal and his exertions to give his child a fair start in the world, but disappointed at not finding the services come more readily forward to take their infant hope by the hand.

Ensign Guinea Pig.—Why, Quick, there seems to be no lack of contributors. How the subscription list looks is another thing, but I should hope that too is increasing.

Lieut. Quick.—I hope it is. But regarding the contents of *Maga*, I regret to see so many articles from the Editor's own pen.

Ensign Guinea Pig.—Why, what's your objection to the Editor's articles?

Lieut. Quick.—None, my dear fellow, except that with *John Bull*, *Sporting Magazine*, and *United Service Journal*, at the same time, he only wants like young Wilding in the play—"a wife and a law-suit to have his hands pretty

fill," And, I fear, if the Services do not come forward with their pens as well as their purses, the Journal will soon be consigned to the tomb of all the Capulets.

Captain Everhard.—Yes! that's true enough. Four such articles as the chief ones in *Maga* No. 1. are not to be written in a day.*

Lieut. Wotherspoon.—Pooh! what's in them? Nothing but what we all knew before; though we did n't take the trouble to write it.

Lieut. Quick.—By Jove, Wotherspoon you are the most knowing fellow of my acquaintance. You know every thing before the fellow who takes the credit of the discovery. What a pity, that you hide your knowledge under a bushel! However if you knew it before, your brother Officers didn't; and I'll be the first to plead ignorance.

Captain Everhard.—Never mind him, Quick, but look here (pulling out a copy of *Maga*), here's H. M. P's toast; let's have it with three times three.

Omnes.—"WELLINGTON"—(Hurra! hurra! hurra!)

Lieut. Quick.—Well I am glad to see the talented, witty and versatile author of "an Indian tale" wielding his pen in support of the Sepoy Grenadier's own Book. He is in himself a host—a few articles from his lively pen will spread a halo of brightness round our pages, which will quite overpower the mists and fogs which envelope the Baotian brains of those old *fogies* who disapprove of the *United Service Journal*.

Ensign Guinea Pig.—Why who the deuce could disapprove of it?

Doctor Clear'em well.—(Pushing away from him a half emptied plate of *raisins*) I do, for one; and now that I have had my quantum suff of wine I'll tell you why. I think that the army has no right whatever to have a publication devoted to its interests, and which must on every occasion take the part of the body on which it depends for support—a publication in which a set of officers writing under assumed names, may express sentiments and advocate opinions alike illegal and subversive of discipline, and which, having the fear of the Lord and a General Court Martial before their eyes, they dare not openly avow.

Lieut. Quick.—Yes! I understand you, Doctor. You think that because we are soldiers, because we form a part of the standing army of our country, that army which first won and then retained this immense empire for the benefit of those at home, that we are, therefore, to be debarred the exercise of our commonest rights as freemen and Britons,—that we are to be the only class of his Majesty's subjects to whom freedom of speech is not allowed—

* Honor where honor is due. We only wrote the 'Persian Army'—the 'Insolvent Act' and the address to the Army. The rest were by Military friends of rank and talent.—Ed.

and that when the universe is ringing with the praises of and blessings resulting from a free press we alone are to be denied its benefits and debarred its use.

Doctor.—Yes, that's all fine enough, but declamation is no argument. Recollect the dangerous results of a freedom of discussion. Do not you think that the natives are becoming fully aware of their own strength, and that they would behold with eyes of gladness a Journal every page of which was redolent with disaffection and insubordination?

Lieut. Quick.—Shame on you, Doctor for giving utterance to so illiberal an insinuation! I hoped that you had known the Indian Army better than that. I thought your experience in this corps alone, would satisfactorily have proved to you that, however animated our officers may be in the defence of opinions, they never allow a private pique to influence them in the discharge of their public duties. And, I am certain, if Maga lives to be as old as its warmest supporters could wish, you will never be able to see a line in its pages which could afford just grounds for taxing us with such unworthy motives. Sad, indeed, for the natives will be the day, when, relying on such a broken reed, they attempt to cope with us. They will find to their cost that the warmest of opponents in the war of words, will fight gallantly side by side against those who dared to slander them by such a supposition. Whole floods of the best blood of India will scarcely wipe away the stain on our honor implied by such an idea.

Doctor.—I am not so confident as you seem to be regarding the result of that eventual struggle you allude to. We are but few; and the Natives will have progressed rapidly and considerably in arts and arms before "the day of battle low'rs."

Lieut. Quick.—True :—they will so. But will they have acquired the courage, activity, patience, energy, and lastly the physical strength necessary to enable them successfully to combat a British Army? Recollect, in that struggle they will have no European Officers to lead them on in a bright and rapid career of victory. They will be dependent alone on themselves and their own resources.

Captain Boerhard.—Unless indeed the autocrat of all the Russias lend them a few Officers or the son of him of Egypt attempts to lend us an ousting hand and strives "to speed the parting guests!"

Doctor.—Aye! or the Russians send an Army to help the Natives against us. They might easily spare a few from their countless hosts of soldiers.

Lieut. Quick.—There you go with your Russian humbug! That Russian Army is the bugbear of us of India. Why, man, just sit down and count

the length of march they would have to undertake—consider the nature of the countries through which their route would lie—the hostile and predatory tribes to be subdued on the way, the scarcity of provisions, water, carriage and fifty other difficulties, and then see how few of those “countless hosts” would arrive—pale, haggard, weary, half-starved, and naked in

“Those orient realms where Ganges’ waters flow.”

Captain Everhard.—And they too only to fall a ready prey to the first detachment of irregular Cavalry that happened to fall in with the invincible Army of the AUTOCRAT OF ALL THE RUSSIAS! !

Doctor.—Well, but I suppose you will allow that our rule in this country must eventually cease through the increased power of the Natives—unless indeed colonization fills the land with her needy crew of starving serfs and fugitive malefactors, who dread every approach to the glorious constitution of Great Britain whose laws entailed on their forefathers the necessity of flying for safety to other realms, and who, fancying themselves wiser in their generation than the children of light, throw off from their shoulders, like our American colonies, the protecting arm of their mother country and glory in a republic based upon injustice, falsehood, and treachery, and cemented with the innocent blood of the aborigines of the country.

Lieut. Quick.—As to colonization, you know our opinions on that point are different. Any remarks of mine might involve us in a long discussion and one every way unadapted to our present position. But, with regard to our being ultimately driven from this country, my opinion is this:—So long as our Government gains and secures the affections and interests of the Natives we run but little risk of being ousted. Should the day, however, arrive when our unparalleled Eastern empire is nodding to its grave, and we struggling for the last inch of ground we possess, on the shores of the Ganges, each of us may console himself with the thought that no effort on his part was wanting to avert the calamity—bold in conscious rectitude he may dare the worst and then

“Siffractus illabatur orbis.
Impavidum sevient ruina!”

But enough of this—let’s revert to metal more attractive—Our Maga—

Lieut. Wotherspoon.—Yes only fancy our all being shewn up in the Journal! By Jove, I never was so surprised in my life as to see myself exhibiting in print—I wonder who the deuce took the trouble of sending down our conversation to the Editor.

Captain Everhard.—I should like to know that too—however there is one comfort in it—that if the G—r G—I takes in Maga he will see what wonderful fine fellows we are here at Chanocepoore.

Ensign Guinea Pig.—Yes, but I wish I had not made that slip about my appointment—I have regularly floored myself—I cannot help it now but the Con—t after all is not so bad as I thought it.

Captain Everhard.—No—no—don't quarrel with your bread and butter, my boy—you are very lucky to get an appointment—at all—But what think you, Quick, of the Paugul Campaign?

Lieut. Quick.—I was amused with it; and am thinking of following it up with a sketch of the Blooming Campaigns of 1832-33, if no abler hand undertakes the task. My cousin sent me down regular Gazettes of all the occurrences and I might be able to make something of them.

Captain Everhard.—If I can be of any assistance do not hesitate to employ me—I, you know, was with the Jungle Mehal Field Force.

Lieut. Quick.—Thank you, Everhard, but we will wait a little and see whether the Editor has brought one of his *great guns* to bear upon it.

Doctor.—Quick, is there any chance of this Retiring Fund being adopted?

Lieut. Quick.—I fear not for the same reasons here given (*Maga*, I. 23). There is a great want of unanimity in our service and an absence of reflection. Half our Officers do not think for themselves but adopt ready made opinions and there is never any want of grumblers and agitators to put nonsensical notions into their heads.

Captain Everhard.—I cannot for my own part see any reasonable objection to the Fund now proposed and shall certainly vote for it.

Lieut. Quick.—So shall I, and I trust all here—But what is this note regarding your service Doctor?

Doctor.—“Tis true—’tis pity—pity ’tis ’tis true.”

Captain Everhard.—Humph! the Doctor quoting! well after that what comes?—“Scenes of Sorrow.”

Lieut. Wotherspoon.—It is scarcely fair to criticise papers of this kind but I certainly think the chap that took the trouble of writing those ‘Scenes’ must be a fool.

Lieut. Quick.—Cool—candid and courteous—Wotherspoon as usual—But, my dear fellow—“dulce est desipere in loco”—Why not say “in *Maga*” too.

Ensign Guinea Pig.—Well I like the idea and could have lent him a lift if he had wanted one.

Lieut. Quick.—As how Guinea Pig?

Ensign Guinea Pig.—Why just before I got my appointment I was sent on a Treasure party—and on my return two marches from Cantonments I was brought up by a River running like a mill sluice. Lots of canoes but none could stem the torrent. Raining “*æthere toto*” as we used to say at school time. Noon, (Had marched at day light) 2 P. M. Khidmetgar arrives with eggs and milk—the former originally bad and the latter soured in creaming. Bread and biscuits a week old and mouldy. Water not drinkable. Grilled fowl tough as Indian rubber. No rice for men—or gram for horses. Three coolies had ran away and dropped their loads. 5 P. M. Tent up, but so many of my servants ill, obliged to give it up to them; “*maxima felicitas*” being my motto—pretended to prefer sleeping under a tree—11 P. M. I woke from my first sleep to pay for 13½ *seers of rice* the Zemindar had collected for Russud for 50 men. No Ghec. One shoe left between all my horses and they lunge from the nails having declined remaining where the shoes did—in the mud. No blacksmith. N. B. detained here two days!

Lieut. Quick.—Happy situation certainly! But your marching days are over now, Master Guinea Pig.

Ensign Guinea Pig.—Yes, thank the Lord! They are.

Captain Everhard.—Well, on the whole I am very much pleased with the first number of the *United Service Journal* and hope it and the other publications of the talented Editor may pay well.

Doctor.—I too wish that—though I cannot say I exactly agree with the Editor in his politics. However every man has a right to form his own opinion, and I will never quarrel with a Gentleman because he is Whig, or Radical, any more than I would for his being a Roman Catholic or Dissenter.

Lieut. Quick.—That’s right Doctor, and as long as you are so liberal no man of sense will quarrel with you, though he may wonder at the mistaken notions sometimes entertained by the wisest of men!

Doctor.—Hem! I vote for a song after that.

Omnes.—A song—a song. Quick’s song.

Lieut. Quick.—A song, my dear fellows? What will you have.

Captain Everhard.—Oh! a touch of the Improvisatore.

Lieut. Quick.—A subject then.

Captain Everhard.—Voilà! (*holding up Maga.*)

Lieut. Quick.—Well! I suppose I must,—so here goes.—(*Sings.*)

THE ORIGIN OF THE UNITED SERVICE JOURNAL.

By Sandy's tomb in joyous mood
 Pale Lethe's goddess kneeling,
 (While by her side a *ghurra* stood
 Her purpose dire revealing.)

Thus sang "No more shall Sandy's name |
 In Eastern lands be mention'd ;
 Forgotten like the former fame
 Of those deccas'd and pension'd !"

"His pictur'd form no more," she cried,
 (Her *ghurra* high up lifting.)
 "His form no more shall be descried
 I'll set his mem'ry drifting !"

"O' ho !" Bellona cries, "tis thus
 My hero's fame you'd tarnish ?
 There goes (*striking the ghurra*) your dirty urn—that's *bus*
 Now where's my pot of Varnish ?"

"No ! now I think, no varnish here
 My hero's face shall cover
 I'll make a book and in't appear
 Each warrior I discover !"

"The brave who led my conqu'ring bands
 On Plassey's field of glory—
 On red Assaye—Godav'ry's sands—
 Kalunga's breach, so gory"—

"All ! All ! shall stand recorded there !
 Their fame shall be eternal !
 Now let me, Lethe, see you dare
 To wet my Indian Journal !"

Omnes. Bravo ! Quick—bravo ! your health and song—Hip hip &c.

Lieut. Quick.—Thanks, Gentlemen, for your vociferations but what will the Ladies say ? It is time we were joining them.

Captain Everhard.—Yes, so it is ; take care of yourself, Quick, you are in a bad way I see.

Lieut. Quick.—Pooh ! pooh ! man ! you don't think I would pick my diamond out of the few that are sent to India ; when next year, please God and the Steam Navigation Committee, I shall be able to get to England in two months—find my jewel—and be back to my Regiment again within the twelve months.—Aye and have seven months fun at home into the bargain.

Ensign Guinea Pig.—Talking of Steam, puts me in mind of a scene I witnessed the other day. A Native had been favoured with an explanation of a steam boat by some kind friend or another, and believed he understood it so fully that he set up “schoolmaster” and commenced explaining to one of my sircars the uses and properties of a steam boat. He got on swimmingly, as he thought, for some time, till my Sircar asked “where do the dandies walk to pull the boat?” Gungadass put the hand of perplexity to the tooth of reflection and replied “*Muen nukeen kup sukta hoon.*” I wonder what he thought the fire and machinery were for?

Lieut. Wotherspoon.—What a fool the chap must have been!

Doctor.—Yes, Wotherspoon—he must have had about as good an idea of a Steam boat as you had of the Cow’s mouth, when I heard you asking Toolsee Ram what size the Cow was and where the rest of the body was to be found!

Omnes.—Ha! ha! ha!

Captain Everhard.—Well my boys you needn’t make such a guffaw. How the devil can you expect a Hindoo to be all of a sudden acquainted with the mechanical powers, or a griff with Hindoo mythology? It requires time to learn them.

Ensign Guinea Pig.—Yes, so it does Everhard, but, as we have not much to spare just now, let’s have another song, and then the Ladies. Quick, another song.

Lieut. Quick.—’Pon my word you’re hard upon me.

Captain Everhard.—And harder still, here’s the same subject again.

Lieut. Quick.—Well, if I fail the fault’s your own so—(*Sings.*)

SINGS.

Maga! May thy stirring voice
 Bid Bellona’s sons rejoice!
 Magna! may thy touching tone
 Thrill the hearts of “India’s own!”
 May thy pages ever show,
 Manly spirit, martial glow
 Such as warm’d the breasts of those
 Who fell beneath the Persian blows—
 Died—that Sparta might be free,
 In thy Red Pass, Thermopylæ!

May thy efforts ever tend
 India’s soldiers to befriend!
 May kind Heav’n thy labors bless—
 Crown those efforts with success!

Then let Russia try her might,—
 Pour her legions to the fight,—
 Vain her countless hosts—ah vain!
 Ne'er shall they a footing gain!
 Thy plains, Punj-ab, or Uttock's wave,
 Shall furnish them a bloody grave!

Lord of battles! by whose might
 The race is run—achiev'd the fight!
 Grant us, to our country true,
 Hearts to dare and hands to do;
 Then, though foe on foe come on
 To pluck thy laurels, Albion!
 Though Russia's various legions vie
 With Turkistân's fam'd chivalry,
 Though Affghan hordes should proudly ride
 With stern Sikh warriors by their side,—
 Though leads the whole the fiery Gaul—
 We'll meet them—conquer them—or fall!

Then Maga, raise thy cheering voice!
 Bid Bellona's sons rejoice!
 Raise those spirit breathing tones
 Would animate the hearts of stones!
 Let thy pages ever show
 Manly spirit,—martial glow,
 Such as warm'd the breasts of those
 Who fell beneath the Persian blows—
 Died,—that Sparta might be free
 In thy Red Pass, Thermopylæ!

Omnes.—Thank you, Quick. Very well sung.

Captain Everhard.—Yes you outdid yourself there. Why, man, you have an invention like a—what shall I say? and a pipe like a black bird.

Lieut. Quick.—Well, but if we stand jabbering here all night who'll smooth Mrs. Cleaver's frowns? So, let us be off to the Drawing Room.

Captain Everhard.—(going, whispers Quick) I'll trouble any one to send our conversation to night down to Maga.

Lieut. Quick.—Yes, we have had nonsense enough for a month during the last few hours. So allons.

(*Exeunt Omnes endeavouring to think how much wine they have drank.*)

THE EDITOR'S TABLETS.

MILITARY EVIDENCE BEFORE THE HOUSE OF COMMONS' COMMITTEE.—We purposed, at the suggestion of an Officer of high rank and experience, to have given in this number of *THE JOURNAL* an analysis of the evidence which has been delivered before the Committee of the House of Commons on the subject of the present state of the Indian Army. We had not however proceeded half way with our task when we discovered that, in the most contracted form, it would still occupy at least one half of the book, to the utter exclusion of several of the original papers we have now the honor of presenting. We therefore at once postponed the work until our next number, for considering the importance of encouraging Military men on the spot to favor us with their assistance, we held it impolitic to reject their early contributions for the sake of what might, without affecting its value, or diminishing its importance, be safely delayed until December. We hope that the gallant Officer, to whom we are indebted for the suggestion regarding the evidence, will recognise the course we have adopted.

COMMAND OF THE ARMY.—It seems to be beyond doubt that Sir Edward Barnes has been recalled, and that the command of the Army is henceforth to be exercised by Lord William Bentinck. It would be superfluous to comment on a measure of this importance while in actual ignorance of the circumstances which have led to its adoption. It can only be deemed a curse or a blessing—an unhappy accident or a fortunate chance—when it is ascertained how far the views of the respective parties bore upon the real interests of the Army. We have heard a variety of reasons assigned for the recall of Sir Edward, to none of which we venture to give implicit credence. The most common report however is that which attributes the disapprobation of the Home Authorities to Sir Edward's opposition to the Governor General and Sir Charles Metcalf in regard to the propriety of assembling a large force, for review purposes, at a given point. The G. G. and Sir C. M. held, it is said, that such a concentration of troops would alarm Runjeet Singh, and others of the Native chiefs with whom we hold "a half-faced fellowship." Sir Edward contended for the necessity of his seeing as much of the Army entrusted to his command as possible, and rather stoutly insisted on his right to determine the how and the when of his own authority. The power of the Governor General however prevailed, and the matter was referred home. The army will be sorry to lose Sir Edward Barnes. He is an Officer of character and experience—"Wellington's Adjutant General"—a gallant soldier, and a liberal and hospitable gentleman. His politics, we confess, are not quite to our mind, but these are matters with which a Military Journal ought to have no concern, and there we leave them.

MACKINNON'S HISTORY OF THE COLDSTREAM GUARDS. We have read this gorgeous work with a mixture of joy and sorrow; joy to find that so

splendid a corps had found so able and accurate an historian,—sorrow to think *our* gallant sepoy army is without a similar chronicle of the deeds of any of its numerous sections. We are aware that the chops and changes incidental to augmentations, and to the conversions of old Regiments of two Battalions into two separate corps, have had the effect not only of diverting much of the interest formerly felt in particular corps into a new channel, but that they have likewise led to the loss and destruction of many records which the old Regiments delighted to cherish, and to preserve from the assaults of the while ant and the moth. Still, we cannot help thinking that there must be a few Adjutants, Quarter Masters or Commanding Officers who yet retain sufficient *esprit de corps*, and store of anecdotes and order books, to enable them with the help of the General orders of Government and the Commander in Chief, Captain Williams's History of the Bengal Army, and the works of Orme, and Blacker, to furnish forth excellent sketches of the services of particular Regiments. Our own avocations are too numerous and weighty to allow of this task being undertaken by ourselves, otherwise we know of no pursuit in which we should more delight. Another objection to *our* becoming the Historian of any particular corps lies in the risk we should incur of a charge of partiality. What regiments have we any right to place in advance of the rest? As far as our knowledge goes there has been a tolerably equal division of honor and hard work throughout the army, and we should scarcely know where to begin. It therefore rests with those who have a direct and personal interest in the perpetuation of the fame of their respective corps to step forward and receive precedence, as the reward of priority of exertion. The *English United Service Journal* teems with records of the services of the different regiments in the British Army, and why should not this periodical rival it in exhibiting the glories of our gallant Asiatics?

GENERAL STAFF. It is said that Colonel Casement and Colonel Stevenson are to succeed General Adams and Carpenter on the Staff of the Bengal Army. The intended appointments rest on the authority of a *Mossul* paper which however is generally correct in its 'rumours'

BREVET RANK.—Since we sat down to scribble these Tablets, the following letter has reached us. The matter it refers to furnishes an additional motive for regretting Sir E. Barnes's departure.

"We understand and from good authority that the Commander-in-Chief has taken up the cause of the Captains of the Bengal Army, and promised to recommend the regular issue, at the Brevet of Major.

If this, as we believe and hope, prove true, this army will have good cause to be thankful to Sir E. Barnes.

*We only hope that the measure may be granted on a somewhat more liberal footing than has of late years been evinced towards this Army, and trust the Commander-in-Chief, this Government, through whom we imagine any such recommendation must go, and the Home Authorities, will recollect the nature of the climate in which the Officers of this Army have always to serve, the continuity of their servitude, and the length of time they have to wait for their Companies, and apportion the time for Captains to serve accordingly.

If these points are duly considered, and the Brevet given merely with reference to what is (or at least was, we understand, during the War) the custom in His Majesty's Service, the boon will be considerably lessened as the period will be much too great. The time to which we allude in the King's Service, was, unless we are much mistaken, fifteen years. Now in an Army of purchase and interest, this might not have been too long; especially considering that the Officers of the Crown, as frequently perhaps serve in good as bad climates; but for an Army of strict Seniority like that of Bengal it would assuredly be very much too long, as it would thus make the general average of service thirty years!! viz. fifteen for a Colonel, and as many more as a Captain, before an Officer could obtain the Brevet rank of Major.

In all Regulations proposed for this Army which are to be copied from the King's, the difference in the constitution of the two Armies should be well considered and the regulation modified accordingly.

In haste,

'A.' & 'B.'

CHRONOLOGY OF ANGLO-INDIAN MILITARY AND NAVAL TRANSACTIONS.

(Continued from Page 70 of No. I.)

- 1761.—Jan. 15th—The Emperor Shah Allum defeated by Major Carnac to whom the Monarch surrendered himself. The whole of the French troops in the Emperor's service were taken prisoners.
- Ditto—Jan. 16th—Pondicherry was taken by Colonel Coote;—it was surrendered by the French General Lally after the garrison had endured all the horrors of famine. (The Madras Government caused the town and fortress to be demolished in the following May.)
- Ditto—Feb. 10th—Major Munro takes Mahé from the French, although the place was defended by 200 pieces of cannon.
- Ditto—April 5th—The French power in India totally annihilated—not an ensign flying at this date emblematic of its power.
- Ditto—December—Clive created a Baron of Ireland, by the title of Baron Clive of Plassey.
- Ditto—The Battle of Gya.

- 1762.—Feb. 23d.—The *Bourbon*, French East Indiaman, taken by the *Blonde*, off Lisbon.
- Ditto—March 11th.—The *St. Priest*, French East Indiaman, taken by the English.
- Ditto—Palambangan ceded to the English by the King of Sooloo.
- Ditto—Oct. 6th.—Manilla taken by the English.
- 1763.—July 10th.—Meer Jaffier re-proclaimed Subahdar of Bengal, and hostilities accordingly commenced by the English against Cossim Ally Khan.
- Ditto—July 19th.—The British defeated the enemy under Mahomed Turkey Khan.
- Ditto—July 24th.—Mooteejil taken by storm, by which Moorshedabad falls into the hands of the English.
- Ditto—Aug. 2d.—The victory of Ghylia.
- Ditto—Sept. 4th.—Major Thomas Adams with about 3,000 bayonets gains the battle of Oadanallah, taking the place although defended by 180 pieces of cannon and 60,000 armed men.
- Ditto—Sept. 25th to Oct. 11th.—Monghyr besieged; the Garrison capitulating
- Ditto—September.—Colonel Caillaud appointed a Brigadier General of His Majesty's Forces in India.
- Ditto—Nov. 6th.—Putna taken by Storm. This event sealed the fate of Cossim Ally Khan's power.
- 1764.—Colonel Coote presented with a diamond hilted sword by the Court of Directors in honor of his conquest of Pondicherry.
- Ditto—March 12th.—The Court of Directors unanimously resolve to appoint Lord Clive to the Government of Bengal and command of the Military.
- Ditto—April 24th.—Clive appointed a K. B.—May.—Clive appointed a Major General in the East Indies.—June 14th.—Clive sails for Bengal.
- Ditto—Oct. 23d.—The battle of Buxar, wherein Colonel Hector Munro defeats Sujah Dowlah, Subahdar of Oude. The British troops amounted to 857 Europeans and 6,215 Natives, while Sujah's army exceeded 40,000 men.
- 1765.—January.—Chunar taken by the English under Sir Robert Fletcher.
- Ditto—Feb. 6th.—Meer Jaffier dies, leaving Lord Clive five lacks of rupees, which Clive makes the foundation of the fund for the benefit of distressed Officers, their widows and disabled soldiers, now known by the name of CLIVE'S FUND.
- Ditto—May 3d.—Clive assumes the Government of Bengal.
- Ditto—May 20th.—General Carnac gains the battle of Culpee.
- 1767.—Jan. 27th.—Clive resigns the Government, and Carnac the command of Fort William.

- Ditto—Feb. 1st—An army despatched under Colonel Wood to observe and counteract the movements of Hyder Ally.
- 1768.—Oct. 4th—Colonel Wood with 3,000 men, defeats Hyder's army 26,000 strong.
- 1769.—April 3d—Peace concluded with Hyder Ally.
- Ditto—Dec. 4th—Brigadier General Sir Robert Barker assumes the command of the Bengal Forces.
- 1771.—Tanjore besieged for the first time.
- 1772.—The Mahrattas invade Rohilcund.
- 1773.—Colonel Jones takes Dellamcottia in Bootan.
- Ditto—August—Tanjore besieged a second time.
- Ditto—December 22d—Sir Robert Barker resigns the command of the Bengal Army and is succeeded by Colonel Charles Chapman.
- Ditto—The Mahrattas invade Oude but are repulsed by the English and Soujah Dowla.
- 1774.—Colonel Chapman resigns the Bengal command to Colonel Champion.
- Ditto—April 23d—Champion defeats 40,000 Rohillas at Catterah. This victory is known as the battle of St. George.
- Ditto—October 27—Lieut General John Clavering assumes the command of the Bengal Army on Champion's resignation.
- Ditto—Nov. 22d—CLIVE DIES.
- 1775.—January 10th.—Died in London, the celebrated Major Stringer Lawrence. Lawrence was the first Officer who introduced military discipline in British India, where for 20 years he commanded the Company's troops. Sir Robert Palk, who was the close and intimate friend of this brave Officer, has paid an elegant tribute to his memory, in a neat monument erected in the Parish Church of Dunchidock, in Devonshire, of which this is the description. It stands in the North aisle, and is of black and white marble, having a medallion of the General, under which, on a black tablet, is the following inscription. 'For discipline established, fortresses protected, settlements extended, French and Indian armies defeated, and peace concluded in the Carnatic. *Mon. by E. J. C. Westminster Abbey.*' Below on a white marble is inscribed, 'Major General Stringer Lawrence, who commanded in India from 1747 to 1767, died January the 10th 1775, aged 78 years. The desperate state of affairs in India, becoming prosperous by a series of victories, endeared him to his country. History has recorded his fame, the regrets of the worthy bear testimony to his virtue.'

'Cui pudor et justitiæ soror,
Incorrupta Fides nudaque Veritas
Quando ullum invenient parem?'

Under all, on a black marble table, is the following :

Born to command, to conquer, and to spare,
As mercy mild, yet terrible as war ;
Here Lawrence rests, the trump of honest fame,
From Thames to Ganges has proclaimed his name.
In vain this frail memorial friendship rears ;
His dearest monument an army's tears ;
His deeds on fairer columns stand engraved,
In provinces preserved and cities saved.

H. MORE.

- 1773.—The treaty of Poorande—sometimes called the treaty of Poonah—by which the English obtain Salsette.
- 1777.—Clavering dies, and the Military Board, like another Aulic council, direct the movements of the army until the appointment of General Stibber.
- 1778.—The second Mahratta war commenced—Culpee taken possession of by Colonel Leslie.
- Ditto—October 17th—Pondicherry a second time taken by General Hector Munro.
- 1779.—Jan. 11th—The Mahratta forces defeat the Bombay Army, acting as Allies of Ragoba.
- Ditto—Mahé taken.
- Ditto—March 25th—Sir Eyre Coote succeeds to the command of the Bengal Army.
- 1780—February 15th—Ahmedabad, the capital of Guzerat, taken by General Goddard.
- Ditto—July 20th—Hostilities commenced between the English and Hyder Ally Khan.
- Ditto—August 3d—Gwalior taken by Captain Popham.
- Ditto—September 10th—The united armies of Hyder and Tippoo defeat Colonel Baillie, at Pollilore.
- Ditto—Oct. 6th—General Stibbert again appointed to the command of the Bengal Army on Sir Eyre Coote's proceeding to Madras on public service.
- Ditto—Nov. 3d—Arcot falls to Hyder Ally.
- Ditto—General Goddard takes Bassein from the Mahrattas.
- 1781.—July 1st—The *Active* Man-of-War, takes the Dutch East Indiaman, the *Heltwoltmade*.
- Ditto—The battle of Porto Novo. Sir Eyre Coote with 8,000 men completely defeats 100,000 under Hyder Ally Khan.
- Ditto—July 21st—Commodore Johnston takes five Dutch Men of War in Saldanha Bay.
- Ditto—Aug. 20th—The Massacre at Benares, when 2 British Officers and 105 men were killed and 72 wounded.

Ditto—Aug. 27th—At Pollilore, on the very ground where Baillie was defeated, Sir Eyre Coote with 11,000 British troops, beats Hyder Ally Khan with 143,000 Mysoreans.

Ditto—November—Bijyghur taken by Major Popham.

Ditto—October 23d—Colonel Owen with a small detachment, (viz. 100 European grenadiers, 5 Battalions of sepoys, a Regiment of Cavalry, two six pounders and 8 galloper guns) gains the pass of Veracandaloor though opposed by Hyder, and his whole army.

Ditto—CEYLON taken from the Dutch by the English.

Ditto—PADANG, and all the other Dutch possessions, taken from the Dutch by the English.

1782—January—Trincomalee, Fort Osnaburg, and Batavia all taken by the English.

Ditto—February—Frequent engagements between the English fleet under Sir Edward Hughes, and the French under Admiral Suffrein, without any important results.

Ditto—February 10th—At Combiconum, Tippoo with 20,000 men, assisted by Lally and his French detachment, defeats Colonel Braithwaite, with his 2000 infantry and 13 guns after an action of 26 hours duration.

Ditto—April 4th—Cuddalore taken by Tippoo and the French. It capitulated by order of Government without a shot being fired.

Ditto—April 12th—Sir Edward Hughes gains a victory over the French fleet under Suffrein, off Trincomalee.

Ditto—May 17th—Peace concluded between the English and the Mah-rattas.

Ditto—June 2d.—The battle of Arne gained by Sir Eyre Coote, with 10,000 British Bayonets, over Hyder Ally Khan with 120,000 Mysoreans.

Ditto—June 8th—The Grand Guard of the British Army drawn into Ambuscade near Trivatore, and cut off by 6000 of Hyder's chosen horse.

Ditto—During the remainder of this year many Naval actions were fought between Sir Edward Hughes and Admiral Suffrein, in which the former always *claimed* the victory, but nevertheless contrived to lose Trincomalee and Osnaburg.

Ditto—December 7th—Hyder Ally Khan died at Vellore.

In this year the BENGAL MILITARY ORPHAN SOCIETY was instituted.

(This is another epoch, honorable in the annals of the Indian Army, which serves us for a halt. We will conclude the 19th century in our next.)

Selections.

MILITARY LIBRARIES.

It is very generally lamented by the officers of the Army in India, that they have not the advantages of good libraries, to which they can resort, both for information and amusement. These advantages are so great, and so evident, that it is presumed to be unnecessary, either to enumerate them, or to apologize for calling attention to any plan, which promises to insure them to officers in every situation, in which they can ordinarily be placed. The writer, therefore, takes the liberty of proposing for the consideration of the officers at Cawnpore, the annexed plan of General libraries for the Bengal Army, under the conviction, that if they would take the subject under their protection, and select a Committee of experienced officers, either to revise it, or form another plan, laying down general principles, it would, on being circulated with the sanction of their approbation, be very generally supported. In case a sufficient number of subscribers should enrol themselves, the same committee could at once carry preliminary arrangements into effect.

In weighing the advantages and disadvantages of a plan of this nature, personal considerations of a local or temporary description ought to be forgotten for the general benefit. In the following plan, it is presumed that in a general institution to which the individual subscription is of the same amount, as that to a partial institution, of the like nature, almost every advantage of the latter is found, whilst the superior advantages of the former are a clear gain to the Subscriber. Thus, in a Regimental Library, new books, to the value of the subscriptions, are available, and in a library of seven corps as in the annexed plan, where each dependency has, in turn, the first perusal of a rateable portion of the new works *New Books* to the value of its Subscriptions, are also available. The clear gain is the 2d, 3d, &c. perusal of the portion of new works of six other corps, (all of which, probably, the mere subscribers to a Regimental library would never see,) besides the permanent use of standard works, which Regimental libraries cannot afford to carry about. The sale of Books, (in India, always at a great loss) gives the sole trifling advantage to a Regimental library, over the dependencies of a General one, of the first, instead of the 2d or 3d perusal of a few extra new works.—It ought to be considered whether the advantages of the plan are worth the sum paid; not whether it provides for what each individual may consider personally desirable which probably he could not procure for a large portion of his income.

It is estimated that a plan, ensuring to officers the use of good libraries at all times, would meet with the support of at least one half of the Army; which consists of 10 of H. M. Regiments, reckoned equal to 20 of the Honorable Company's; 99 Honorable Company's corps of 20 officers each, and 300 Medical officers, giving a total of 2680; the half of which, 1340, divided by 119, the number of corps, gives 12 nearly as an average rate of subscribers in each corps, performing Regimental duty, or in staff situations. This aver-

age is made use of in the plan, which consists of eleven General libraries, with dependencies as enumerated below. The number of Subscribers to each library is estimated according to the number of corps stationed within its circle, at 12 to each.

The Entrance donation of each Subscriber to be Rupees 50 on the first formation of the libraries, the whole of the donations collected to be divided equally or rateably amongst the Eleven libraries—1340 Subscribers would give Rupees 67,000, or Rupees 6100, nearly to each library, a sum supposed sufficient to erect necessary buildings, &c. When this division shall have taken place, each library is to be independent of the others, in every respect, except, that a Subscriber, having paid his donation to any one of them, is considered a general proprietor; and that they are all to be managed upon the same general principle, to insure, as nearly as possible, equal advantages to Subscribers, in all situations. Each library to have its own Bye Laws, not inconsistent with the spirit of the general Regulations.

The eleven libraries will be considered as general depôts, by which a large proportion of Books is to be kept, and from which each dependency is furnished with a rateable number of Books as its library; a portion of which is changeable periodically—So that the Books in each Dépôt, are continually circulating throughout its dependencies; and at every Station of the Army, an officer is sure of finding Books.—The principal station and its dependencies to have in turn the first choice of a rateable portion of new works.

These libraries, it appears to the writer, ought to assimilate to the libraries of private Gentlemen—particularly Military men, rather than to what are called Circulating Libraries—and it will hardly be necessary to take in Periodical publications, as the works themselves, of which Periodicals generally treat, will be available.—It would, perhaps, be advisable to define what proportion of the income of each library is to be appropriated to the purchase of works in the several branches of literature; in order that, in all situations, an officer may depend on having a General library which might not be the case were the selection left entirely to the discretion of temporary committees. When the number of Subscribers is very large, duplicates of the most popular works might be procured.

The monthly subscription to be Rupees four, to commence, in the first instance, simultaneously throughout the Army. This subscription to cover every expence of carriage, &c. &c.

It is perhaps necessary to say a few words as to the number of libraries fixed upon in this plan. It is considered preferable to have a few large and really perfect libraries, from which at all times, large temporary stocks could be drawn for dependencies; than to have a greater number of small libraries which could never afford more temporary accommodation (which must always be in ratio to the number of subscribers) besides being always imperfect in their permanent advantages.

The division of the stations might very probably be improved by more experienced persons; but when the advantages or disadvantages of another dependency are under consideration, it ought to be borne in mind that Regiments are constantly changing their stations, and that all, in turn, partake equally these advantages and disadvantages. The division has been so made that the number of Subscribers to the smallest library may be sufficiently numerous to render it efficient; and that all may as nearly as possible approach to an equality, due regard being paid to distances which, however, do not appear to be of essential consequence, as where we have to wait so many

months for books from England, two or three extra days of Coolce carriage will be of little consideration.

The smallest library is estimated at 84 Subscribers; which will give an annual income of Rupees 4032 independent of casual donations, which it is supposed would leave, after payment of all expences, a sum which would soon furnish a capital library.

One objection which presents itself to such large libraries, is the trouble which they appear likely to give to committees of superintendence; but the writer considers that it would prove less in reality, than if they were of a smaller size; for the greater the number of subscribers, the larger pay could the library afford to give to a librarian, rendering the situation worth holding, by a man of known respectable character; who could be made responsible, not only for the general care of the books, but for regularity in issuing books and recalling them, both from dependencies and individuals.

To prevent references to the General body of Subscribers, it might be defined, that the decision of the majority of Subscribers to one library, should be final on any case happening within its circle. This could not prove detrimental where the general principles are well defined.

In presenting this plan the writer must apologize for the length of his remarks, which is caused by the consideration that in calling the attention of a body of men, to any subject, the person doing so is bound to use his best endeavours to show that the object of it is not only advantageous, but also practicable, if properly supported; and what he has said is not intended so much to recommend his plan as the subject itself to consideration. He is certain that his intrusion will be excused by the assurance that it is intended for the public good.

PLAN.

ELEVEN LIBRARIES AT STATIONS MARKED PRINCIPAL WITH THE DEPENDENCIES ANNEXED AS FOLLOWS :

Stations.	Subscribers.	
	At each Station.	To each Library.
Barrackpore Principal,	72	192
Calcutta,	24	
Midnapore,	12	
Cuttack,	12	
Dum-Dum,	60	
Arracan,	12	96
Berhampore Principal,	60	
Dacca,	12	
Jumalpoore,	12	
Chittagong,	12	
Dinapore Principal,	48	84
Bhagnulpore,	24	
Mulje,	12	

Stations.	Subscribers.	
	At each Sta- tion.	To each Li- brary.
Benares Principal,	36	87
Sultanpore,	12	
Mirzapore,	12	
Gorukpore,	12	
Juanpore,	6	
Ghazepore,	24	
Allahabad,	18	120
Cawnpore Principal,	96	162
Keitah,	36	
Bandah,	12	
Etawah,	6	
Mynpooree,	12	
Lucknow Principal,	24	84
Futty Gurh,	12	
Seetapore,	12	
Secrora,	12	
Sultanpore,	12	
Purtab Gurh,	12	
Agra Principal,	60	138
Muttra,	36	
Ally Gurh,	12	
Barreilly,	24	
Shahjahanpore,	6	
Meerut Principal,	84	132
Delhi,	36	
Almorah,	6	
Moradabad,	6	
Kurnaul Principal,	48	84
Hansi,	12	
Loodhianah,	24	
Nusseerabad Principal,	60	120
Neemuch,	60	
Sangur Principal,	36	120
Jubbulpore,	12	
Baitool,	12	
Gurrawarra,	12	
Mhow,	48	

N. B. In the above only stations of Regular troops, not less than a wing, are enumerated. Detachment Posts are intended to be included in the plan. Officers of Artillery and Engineers (except at Dum-Dum) included in average of twelve

GENERAL PRINCIPLE.

1. One Agent to be appointed in London for the selection, purchase, and despatch of Books; and one in Calcutta for the receipt of them there, and despatch to the several libraries. Both agents to keep separate accounts for each library.

2. A Committee to be formed at each library station for the superintendence of general interests which is to be allowed a necessary Establishment the expence of which is not to exceed a certain per centage of income.

3. The officers of each dependency to select, from amongst themselves, A Subscriber to superintend their own supplies of Books from the libraries. A small sum to be allowed to each Dependency for a writer, &c.

4. Every officer on subscribing, to pay a donation of Rupees 50 to that library in whose circle he may happen to be, when he will be furnished with a certificate that he has done so, which constitutes him a member of all the libraries. No advantage to be derived till the donation is paid. The monthly subscription to be Rupees 4. Whilst benefitting by libraries, Subscribers present within circles, to be suspended from benefits, if subscriptions are not paid when due until arrears are paid up.

5. Certain non-Military gentlemen (to be defined) to be eligible as Honorary members and to pay monthly.

6. Subscriptions to be collected at each station or dependency and to be remitted to the library Committee periodically.

7. All money to be safely lodged and not risked for the sake of Interest.

8. All books, &c. to be insured that the general benefits may not be decreased by partial losses; and all Books injured or lost to be made good.

9. Buildings to be pukka, to prevent accidents by fire.

10. Each library Committee to make its own arrangements as to value of Books, to be indented for: but the proportion of each class of Literature to be defined, as far as practicable, that all the libraries may be as similar in advantages as possible.

11. Books to be separately packed in England for each library, and all bound in the same style, with the name of the library on the back.—On the receipt of an invoice the names of the Books to be inserted in library catalogues, and numbered; exact copy of Entry to be sent to Dependencies for registry in their Catalogues.

12. Each station of every library in turn to have the first choice of a rateable portion of new works. The time for reading on first circulation to be limited, and new works to be forwarded to the next Station.

13. Each station to be allowed a portion of Books always present at it, of which a certain number of volumes to be charged periodically.

14. Fines to be levied for keeping books beyond defined time; and omitting to insert date of forwarding.

15. The Station Librarian to be responsible for the regular issue of Books as well as for the recal of them if not returned in due time, obtaining the signature of a member of Committee as his authority.

16. The opinion of the majority of Subscribers to any one library who represented within its circle, to be final on any case happening within that circle.—*Delhi Gazette, July 20.*

SIR SAMFORD WITTINGHAM.

We perceive in the columns of a contemporary, that Major General Sir Samford Wittingham has taken farewell of the Meerut Division of the Army in terms full of affectionate eulogy, martial enthusiasm, and we may add, prophecy. We copy part of the order.

"Officers and men have always met his wishes with zeal and hearty goodwill, and he has only to lament that their admirable discipline should have wanted an opportunity of proving its efficiency in the field of battle: that happy day must ere long arrive, and whilst the Major General entertains the most perfect confidence in the brilliant and glorious success that will attend their arms, he grieves to think the honor of commanding them will devolve on another."

We know little of the gallant Officer's career but the decorations which he wears bespeak high distinction and royal favour. Is he the General who lately enlivened these dull times of peace by entering the list with a bold standard bearer in the Hills, and thereby occasioned a wordy war, still raging, between our brethren of Meerut and Agra, on the merits of the case? The contest in print having roused our curiosity we forthwith dispatched a scout to learn particulars that such an event might not sink to oblivion for want of an historian, since no Poet of the Doab or the Darul sultanat has yet given it life in song. Our emissary for whose perfect accuracy however we vouch not, relates that the Ensign riding an unruly pony in dishabille, unwittingly broke through a party of ladies, escorted by the leader of armies who, taking the young gentleman for a Private Soldier, touched him with his cane, and ordered him to his barrack. The youth, seeing the impropriety of entering into altercation before the fair witnesses, went home naturally in wrath, and not having recognized a General in plain clothes, sent round a descriptive Roll of the person who had insulted him, begging the favour of knowing his name, and intimating civilly, that if it were withheld the aggrieved party would be compelled to denounce the picture in the absence of the original. A Knight of the Bath and of Hanover, however, chivalrously owned the portrait, and professed himself ready to give satisfaction to the painter. A Duel but no bloodshed was the consequence. The Ensign apologized to the ladies for some accidental omissions in his toilette, and the unmanageableness of a hard mouthed Ghoot, in consequence of which the General forgave his neglect of certain military regulations on dress. Now, as men of honour, both parties we believe will be allowed to have behaved correctly, and the General particularly well. The morality of our Editorial brethren is ahead of the age on this subject; and we, without aught of their inherent combativeness, must linger a little behind unless they take more along with them. Duelling they may plead is forbidden by divine law. But if so, War, to which the sinners in this case professionally devote their lives, is no less irreconcilable to christianity. Nay the wisest of mankind in heathen and christian times have declared it the greatest curse of humanity. Duelling, abandoned as it erroneously is to the caprice and passion of its votaries, though often the cause of grief and misfortune to individuals, has done positive good to polished society throughout the civilized world. The habits of mutual forbearance and amenity which it has introduced into the intercourse of private life are what would have been expected only from the influence of more intellectual arts. War, in which we all glory, on the contrary arrests the natural tide of improvement, and has more than any other cause retarded the growth of intelligence, wealth, and liberty in Christendom. As men approach maturity of understanding in the gradual advance of im-

provement, nations will probably cease to play at the game of mutual destruction, as the boys of two schools now contend at cricket, that the winners may boast of success. But, as yet, this sanguinary gambling is the first of professions: Church, state, sages, and bards, urge multitude to fight with multitude on pretexts as frivolous, and in causes as bad as ever prompted a single person to lift his hand against another. Had such excellent patronage been extended to private encounters of individuals with pistol or sword, does any one fancy that these would not have been held as respectable and virtuous in our day as wholesale carnage.—

“ Man, can thy doom no brighter soul allow?
Still must thou live a blot on nature's brow?
Shall War's polluted banner ne'er be furld?
Shall crimes and tyrants cease but with the world?”

Such is the state of the world, and since it does not promise to be very soon mended, we should wish to see the mode of adjusting private quarrels reduced to system. Why does not some military man take up the subject which Bentham's peculiarities unfortunately make ridiculous, and deduce the laws of honour from intelligible principles which shall render their administration more uniform and satisfactory?—*Delhi Gaz., Aug., 17.*

MILITARY POSITIONS.

When the French Republicans took the field against the rest of Europe, every private soldier, it is said, used to examine the ground on which an army encamped in order to pass “ his opinion” on its eligibility for offensive or defensive operations: and though the suggestions of any individuals seldom merited much notice, the aggregate information of which the Generals could avail themselves from such sources was often considerable. Their example has prompted me to take a survey of our great Indian encampment. What measures are best calculated to give physical strength to the British power in India? The command of the sea involves dominion, to some extent, on the whole line of coast from the Berhampootur to the Indus. The navigable rivers, connecting this grand position on the ocean, with the great mountain chain which forms the inland boundary of these vast plains, are inlets for commerce or war, which improvements in the application of steam are rendering every day more valuable to a maritime people. Supposing this communication with the sea maintainable at all times, the military occupation of the mountains would establish us on another unassailable element, which invests the opposite side of the country to be held in subjection.

Mountainous regions are famous in the history of the world for enabling handfuls of determined men to defend their liberty, who, without the advantage of those fortifications of nature, must have been overwhelmed by superior numbers. But Providence has given Freedom no exclusive privileges. The same uplands in which she might have found a retreat here, seem ready to become a long chain of posts, constituting one impregnable fortress, whence a few energetic foreigners may repress the hope of resistance in 100,000,000 of subjects, and move on occasion from a secure base to repel external aggression.

The hilly tracts which we already possess between the Gogra and Setledge could, we believe, be converted to this use. But besides their position, in relation to the rest of India, the narrow ridges and hollows of which they consist, rendering personal restraint on the men necessary, as in the plains, are not the best adapted to cantonments for British troops, and still less to

the supply of their wants. For the purpose in view locations are required in which European soldiers, going about in the open air and living as at home, can enjoy health and vigour throughout the year : where the soil yields enough to make them independent of importations for their ordinary subsistence.

I do not think it impossible to obtain such places at present, by exchange or purchase, for a price beneath their incalculable value to us, but coming events promise to present opportunities of fixing, if not of consolidating, our power which we fervently hope may not be neglected, as others were at time past. When once war begins, we consider conquest simply as the means to an end, which is to be praised or condemned, according to the amount of good or evil which it brings. There may be guilt in acquiring new territory, and guilt no less deep in retaining old acquisitions ; but both are often thought inevitable for self-preservation, and it is always possible to make both regnant with advantages to the great majority of those concerned. To cite a case immediately in point ; had our forces, after the victory at Macwanpore, taken and kept possession of Nepal seventeen years ago, none need have suffered but the grand children of a brutal and usurping conqueror, whilst the population received all the benefits of civilized government. The valley of this principality, twelve miles by nine in extent, with a climate congenial to the European constitution, is capable of supporting an army numerous enough in its position behind to overawe and command the Gangetic provinces of India.

We know not whether the *malaria* of the Terrai is still a bugbear, which frightens natives from travelling between Nepal and the plains from March to October. But should events again place that valley at the disposal of a Governor General, we doubt not that the spade and the axe, put duly in requisition, would drain swamps, and cut down forest sufficient to render ingress and egress tolerably safe at all seasons. The dominions of Runjeet Singh and of Meer Morad Ali, comprising the only defensible frontier to the west, and Cashmere itself, are destined at the death of their present rulers, to be scrambled for by barbarians, pretty sure to abuse whatever power they obtain. The valley of Cashmere, reckoned 90 by 40 miles in extent, though now nearly depopulated, once maintained a million of inhabitants. Its known fertility makes the probable capabilities of the soil, under skilful management, immense : while the salubrity and temperateness of the climate, indicate it as the only country belonging to India in which Englishmen of all classes might colonize. An European army or military colony fit to command both sides of the Indian caucacus, could find a home here and enjoy as good health as in England. Were any accident to bring the line of the Indus under British sway, Cashmere, in which it terminates, might then communicate with the sea by steam, perhaps as quickly as it does with Lahore at present. It would controul the Sindic provinces, as Nepal did those on the Ganges : stand on the flank of any force invading India from Persia or Tartary, and be ready to pour down troops through the different passes to Afghanistan and Punjab.—*Delhi Gazette.*

RUSSIAN INVASION.

It seems that several British vessels of war have been stationed at the mouth of Indus, and that a considerable force is being concentrated on the banks of that river in the direction of Cutch Bhoj and Kurachu bunders. As soon as the preparations and equipments are completed, it is supposed that a movement will be made westward, and the current on dit is that hosti-

ties will be commenced against the Scindians in the beginning of the next cold season. The idea of the Scindians attempting to offer any opposition to a British force is of course a farce, but it is supposed that they are in league with the people of Iran and Candahar, by whom they are instigated and from whom they may expect support. Many connect these warlike symptoms with a Russian invasion, and various speculations are made as to the probable issue of such an event: should it happen to take place, much will necessarily depend upon the occupancy of Cabul, and whichever party first secures possession of that place will probably carry the day. The general opinion, however, seems to be that although the contest may prove a bloody and a stubborn one, yet the British arms will ultimately triumph.—*Delli Gazette.*

DUELLING.

A rencontre, or, in common phrase, a hostile meeting, took place a few days since in the hills; the parties engaged were a distinguished Peninsular officer and a young "bearer of colours;" the misunderstanding, it is rumoured, originated in the more experienced of the two having struck the other, not knowing at the time who he was, and not offering an apology so soon as was expected. It terminated happily without bloodshed.

We have inserted a notice of a duel which has been sent to us by a correspondent. Whether the account is correct or not, appears to us of comparatively little consequence, but as journalists we cannot permit the opportunity to pass without offering our comments on so extraordinary a practice.

A Peninsular officer, it is stated, stood up to be fired at by an Ensign on account of some frivolous and uninteresting misunderstanding. It is necessary, we believe, that in a wager of this kind, each party should be prepared to stake an equal value; yet the Peninsular officer perhaps receiving 3 or 4,000 Rs. a month, is induced to stake his life against that of an Ensign receiving only 200. True, as far as the community are concerned, the two lives may be considered as tolerably equal, since the act of which both have been guilty affords convincing proofs of such consummate folly, as would *a priori*, and without any other evidence to the contrary, give us just grounds for estimating the lives of both of but comparative small public value. We allow that stigmas of the same kind have been attached to higher characters,—a circumstance which has alone we conceive given longevity to the practice, and when the Duke of Wellington acted the fool in support of the tenets of the college to which he belonged, it was almost the same as recommending every schoolboy to follow his Grace's example.

Terms employed in different crafts are frequently very difficult to be understood by foreigners unacquainted with our customs; amongst these may be mentioned the word 'satisfaction.' A man is insulted, goes out and fights with his neighbour, who is expert in the use of pistols. He receives a shot in his hip which lames him for life, and when limping away from the scene of his folly, he declares he has obtained ample satisfaction. Another receives a mortal wound, and dying declares to his opponent that he is perfectly satisfied. The latter who has committed the murder, according to the fashion of the day, goes up and laments what is called the unfortunate circumstance, shakes hands with the dying man, and both declare that they are fully satisfied.

We really think in these advanced times, when every thing is reduced to such exact calculation, that instruments ought to be used by which the chances may be rendered equal or modified by a scale to suit the different circumstances of the individuals. We are naturally fond of mechanical philosophy, for effect is produced by instruments with greater certainty and regularity than by manual labor. It is likewise the part of the philanthropic to confer happiness on our fellow beings; and when a set of men receive pleasure from such amusements, we conceive that an instrument might be easily prepared by which this might be *doubled* by merely discharging two bullets at a time; nay, we think its qualities might be improved to a much greater extent, and made to suit the peculiar feelings of the parties deriving satisfaction from such extraordinary sources.

But, to be serious, can an old Peninsular officer lay his hand upon his heart and state upon his conscience (we hate the word honor) in its present acceptation, that he considers he acted consistently or properly in wilfully exposing himself to be murdered by his neighbour, or that all the rules of fashion will sanctify the act of wilfully attempting to take the life of a fellow being, or of becoming an instigator in such an act? This however is considered in the language of the present day to be courage, and a necessary sacrifice made to the laws of a detestable and worthless deity who has usurped the name of honor. We are aware, it is true, that our opinions are here, as in many other instances, directly at variance with that of the public; but we do not consider it necessary to withhold them on that account whenever we deem them to be correct or deserving of their attention. We conceive for example that a man who performs an act like this, which he knows (and what man does not know it?) to be radically wrong, in order to please the society amongst whom he moves, or to satisfy his superiors, who prefers to sacrifice his own conscience to gain their applause, though he may have rescued his life a thousand times to gain the bubble reputation, we conceive we say that man to be at heart a coward. We also implicitly believe that he who surrenders the uprightness of his own conduct to gain at its expense the smiles of his fellow mortals, who gives up his conscience and duty rather than brook the contempt and scorn of those who differ with him in opinion, that that man is destitute of moral courage; and high though he bears himself, clothed in all the gaudy glory of the age, in our opinion he is in heart and soul a coward.—*Mofussil Ukbhur.*

EXTRACTS FROM A MEMORIAL FROM OFFICERS OF THE ARTILLERY.

"This is our respectful representation of the peculiar hardships and inconveniences we are put to when compared with the rest of the army, by being placed on half tentage when at the stations of Dum-Dum, Berhampore, Dinapore and Benares; and we earnestly entreat His Excellency as the constituted protector and guardian of our rights and interests, to intercede in our behalf with Government to have us placed upon an equal footing with the officers of native corps; and we feel assured that the following reasons will appear sufficiently forcible in the eyes of a just and liberal Government to give us an unquestionable claim to the object of our appeal.

2d. The avowed reason for our being placed upon half tentage is, that, being an European corps, we are less liable to move than the officers of a corps of Native Infantry, but we respectfully beg leave briefly to point out how differently we are situated from all other European corps, and consequently how groundless such an argument is with respect to the Artillery.

* 3d. European cavalry and infantry generally move *en masse* by Regiments and seldom or never take the field for service without considerable previous warning. Artillery almost always in detail, by companies, and detachments, are required to move on service at all times and at all seasons with Native Infantry, and in general, without the warning which can be allowed to other European corps; the former rarely move but on occasions of general war or in the regular reliefs when the whole corps moves,—the latter are liable to be moved from every station in small portions on every occasion, having besides these more important duty of serving with Artillery of the Army, to keep up details for numerous outpost guns * and other small detachments less than a Company, and liable to be so detached on the shortest notice. Again, the former consist of single Regiments unconnected with each other and the officers belonging to one of those Regiments are never liable to be sent off suddenly to do duty with another; but with the artillery, the whole of its officers are not only liable to be, but in the practice of every day are actually removed from one battalion or company to another, and thereby frequently subjected, at the very shortest notice, to undertake long and expensive marches, entirely alone, and, if from a station, like Dum-Dum, enjoying the advantages of a mess, subjected to every inconvenience and expense of a separation from it, the liability to which alone prevents in some measure the same economical arrangements such an establishment may admit of in other European corps.

We are liable to every call of active service which should require troops, not only from Barackpore, but from every other station in the Presidency division; and from the circumstance of the permanent commands at Dacca, Assam, Arracan, Chittagong, Cuttack and Berhampore being sent from Dum Dum, and the liability of their becoming vacant by the death or sickness of the officers or any other cause, besides being relieved annually whenever practicable, on which occasions another officer is very frequently required to go, and as frequently and suddenly dispatched from this station in his place, thus rendering us ever liable to move at the shortest notice; and here we beg leave most particularly to bring to His Excellency's notice the circumstance of twelve officers, namely, ON SERVICE, Captain Graham, H. A. Lieut. Backhouse, H. A. (twice) Lieut. Shakespear, H. A. (twice) Lieut. M'Gregor H. A., Lieut. M'Donald, Lieut. Scott, Lieut. Mallock, Lieut. Fenning, Lieut. Sissmore,) ON COMMAND, Lieut. Cornish, (Dacca), Lieut. Austin, (Cuttack), Lieut. Maul, (Chittagong), exclusive of medical men, having been detached from this station on duty during the last 18 months, and nine of these on active service, many of whom had to march at a few hours' notice, and (our situation here upon reduced allowances, receiving only half tentage, rendering it quite impossible to maintain camp equipage in readiness) several of them were forced to march without either tents or baggage, and for days were without any protection from the inclemency of the climate, and almost without decent food, except what was afforded by the kindness of the officers of the corps of Infantry. The officers sent to Dacca and Chittagong, as well as another in command at Berhampore, have, very lately, been suddenly ordered to return, owing to the paucity of officers at Dum-Dum, and may hereafter be as suddenly replaced.

6. We acknowledge that the Native infantry at almost all the stations of the army, except the one above-mentioned, are constantly detached on trea-

* It appears at present that out of 23 Artillery Detachments at out posts, 16 are commanded by officers of the Line, but this system, of course, will not be continued in.

sure parties, &c. to which artillery officers are seldom liable, but at all stations we are liable to the extra chance of movements for the calls more peculiarly confined to our own corps, of replacing deficiencies in other troops or companies or for outpost commands, which appear to us a full-compensation,* and we do therefore earnestly solicit to be replaced as heretofore upon the same footing as the Native corps.

7. We further beg leave to bring to the notice of His Excellency that the peculiar claims of the artillery to full tentage have been so often recognized by the public functionaries of Government, and Government itself, that we have the less diffidence in urging them upon their attention.

First.—On a minute of Lieut. Colonel Salmond, Auditor General, in 1802, these claims were strongly urged by the Military Board on the very grounds we now advance.

Secondly.—On the formation of the Dum-Dum Cantonment, where so large a body of the corps would otherwise have been affected by existing regulations, that station was especially excepted and full batta and full tentage especially guaranteed in General Orders (1st Nov. 1812) owing to great expence of building our houses in a swamp, and the consequent high prices and high rent which still exceed the same charges at almost any other station of the Army.

Third and lastly.—On the promulgation of the new pay tables in 1824 when the special exception was still recognized to the station of Dum-Dum by a subsequent explanations of them in General Orders†.—*Mofussul Ukkbar.*

MESSES IN NATIVE REGIMENTS.

By whatever name we designate the "Spirit of the Times," whether by the worn-out terms, "Anarchy, Revolution, Radicalism," or the modernized and juster ones, "Reform" or "Improvement," it is one and the same thing: the better fruit of Reason, ripened and matured by time, yielding a beneficial influence to mankind generally, through its Governments, Institutions, &c.; severing the bonds of despotism that have so long chained the many to the views of the few, and affording a remedy to abuse, and mistakes of all kinds: and doubtless, this enlightened spirit will progress with the age, 'till it leaves systems without doubt, and mankind nearly faultless! Query—the epocha of the real millennium—1847, or "Wolff's Age of Wonder"!—But improvement has a wide signification: wherever error exists, and—where does it not?—its influence should be felt, and acknowledged. Ever jogging on with Time, and a benevolent companion to his unfriendliness; like a thrifty house-wife with her besom, it betters society with a polish. If every State be susceptible of improvement;—why not more sought for? We find the barrier in prejudice;—prejudice of custom! We cling tenaciously to habit, and ancient form, when their utility has ceased. For substance, we sustain the shadow! "When at Rome, do as Romans do,"—yet we live in contradiction with the spirit of the adage! We lug our ha-

* It might be also added that a large proportion of Artillery are under canvass every year at practice, the Company of Dinapore having to march to Sultanpore for the annual practice, and being upwards of 3 months in tents every year, the loss of tentage is peculiarly felt.

† And again in the Table of Pay published to the Army, the 29th September, 1827 it is stated "with exception of Dum-Dum, where full tentage is especially allowed to the Artillery."

bits and customs from home, and wish them to grow and flourish in a most ungenial clime! Our injurious customs, and useless systems, engender folly, and we are the living offspring!—but to the point. India is not the country for Messes.

I am unacquainted with the date or origin of the custom, but it necessarily had for its aim the general well-being of the Officer. It induced a style consonant to his rank and education, that was beyond the means of the individual: it gave a tone of refinement to his manners, appearance, and conversation: it encouraged loyal principles, and uniformity of thought and action. A foe to insubordination, it inculcated habits of temperance and sobriety: at once a political and moral good; and was further, a pattern of imitation to the humbler Mess of the Private,—in short, the feelings and comforts of the man were consulted, and of course it worked well. Based on rational speculation, the scheme bore its proof; the good is still extant, and doubtless will be to perpetuity.—But I allude to his Majesty's Regiments and to their birth place: where, from their constitution numerically considered, from contingent and local circumstances, such as climate, cost of the products, necessities and luxuries of life, it developed the fullest effects, with the greatest desideratum—economy. I am far from hinting that H. M. Messes in this country do not produce the effect; my apology, or meaning, however, will be made evident by showing the fallacy of our system.

Trundling the old Colonel out of the way, who is of no manner of use to his Regiment, we muster a body of twenty officers, which furnishes a quota to the Staff,—say four, sends home, sick or not, three, and allowing one to be absent on general pretext, we find twelve men present with a corps (a number however larger than you'll find in one out of three Regiments); and as we may calculate nearly one half the army to be married, I think we may safely say that a third, or four out of the twelve, will be in that amiable state, leaving a neat little extract of eight, to play—the Masquerade! During nearly seven years that I have been a member of the army, I do not remember to have sat down, self included, a party of eight. I have been forced to make one of five, and four, for a year at a time, and have taken my meal by myself, day after day, though at the Mess House. As a machine cannot work well, unless the parts be in accordance with the principle of action, neither can a system grounded on error; and that Native Messes evince this system, nearly daily instances could prove. Every thing that can be advanced in favor of the original institute fails in this instance: we do not find a good effect, unless you so call discontent, and, but start not—demoralization! I will now show cause why these exist, and exert their baneful influence to the prejudice of the many; and will advert to the first evil, in the want of authority—of a head. Of the few senior Officers to be found with our Regiment, nearly all are married and consequently do not attend Mess; and generally the messers, with three or four Lieutenants, mostly juniors, are Ensigns. Thus then the true composition of our Messes,—one half, young men, the others—would be young men. Although on Parade, the senior Officer of a day receives that respect becoming his right, and which from the nature of military service we lend willingly, yet in a Mess House this is quite another matter: there we require a person of experience, who should command respect from his station, or enforce it if necessary. An Ensign myself, I cannot be accused of throwing obloquy on my rank, or the army, but if young gentlemen do not sometimes require coercion, then the expressions so freely lavished on youth—"Folly, wildness, intemperance, inconsistencies" are words of senseless import! Without a wish to show the anatomy of the gorgon, or to probe the suppurating ulcers of this dangerous disease, I will content you with the result of a question. Oh, that I could

not !—Of the Courts Martial that have taken place from time to time, many of which have terminated so fatally in the death of hope to the victim, by consigning him forlorn and broken hearted to his parental home, (but seldom with turpitude)—has not three fourths of what gave rise to such consequence, been the—brewing of the Mess Room? Every Regiment in the service would fain say no,—they cannot!

The second growth of evil is to be traced in the expence of the Establishment. If any one doubt it, I tell him the better part of the young hands at least, feel it, the rest know it to be the case; and as this is a deep root of destructiveness, detailing to all disquietude, and to some the very worst consequences, I shall take pains in the exposition. If mammon be our God of this world, and truly it is,—whence arises our devotion? In the chimera—happiness, which, fools that we are, like children at the game of “Blind man’s buff,” we seek to catch with our eyes shut!—What is economy?—but the art of producing competent effects, from almost incompetent matter. Economy is power concentrated in means. It should be the Subaltern’s friend, but a Mess robs us of its friendship! Referring to the proceedings of a Committee held at the Adjutant General’s Office, 17th August 1822, on the subject of Messes, I extract the following, “That a Mess be established in all corps in the Army, under a system of economy so well regulated and reasonable, that the youngest Officer in the corps can afford to belong to it.” Gentlemen, you did your duty, or thought so, which is not exactly the same thing. You based in some respects a reasonable structure on air, and being visionary architects, your castle has tumbled down. But you had better material for building than can be found at present. At that time not more than a quarter of the Army were married, and that Epidemic “Reduction,” had not assailed our ranks. We are now reduced to a nonentity, and how can you reconcile the fact, with this nonsense in your minutes,—“so well regulated and reasonable, that the youngest Officer in the corps can afford (must afford) to belong to it!” Belong to what?—we, half a dozen of us, are the Mess, and our Abstracts are absorbed in our Mess bills. If eating and drinking be perfect happiness, (I’ll allow it has much to do with it) then are we the happiest beings in the world, for every day induces some fresher luxury to—Folly! Go to the Subaltern’s house on pay-day,—to his who endeavours to make both ends meet! Look at the few Rupees on the table after his Mess-bill has been paid, and then at the hungry searching glances of the people about him. One shews a bill of exorbitant house rent. The tailor gives him clearly to understand, that he will wait no longer for his money, and—payment or Commanding Officer are his terms.—Here his boy chimes in, with the dissonance of a bull-frog,—“got no expence.” Mark, there are no accounts for house furniture or necessaries:—for any thing conducive to the supposition, that he is a rational, reasonable being! An exile from home; blighted in promotion; frustrated in intention: his means merely perverted to show his proximity to the beast. Gentlemen, who watch over the affairs of the Army (for its good of course)—what do you think is working in that man’s mind? Insubordination? No, there’s little of that, but “Disease, Disgust, Melancholy;” a growing distaste for the service and his profession, and assisted often by sickness of body. Can a man be the smart Officer rankling under such feelings? or can he take as Gospel, what our friends in Office tell us, that “no place is so healthy for an Officer as his corps?” You have the power of making us believe you;—use your power, and you’ll find Regiment and home, synonymous; at any rate, I promise you better men, and consequently better soldiers. Many may say,—you declaim Sir, in no measured meaning against the regulation, framed depend on it by wiser heads than yours, that has been thought to work well, and in our opinion does.

But many are very superficial observers, and you have formed this opinion, from the hilarity and good cheer at the table. Ask the army,—and tell the—youngers they'll be 10 years Ensigns! Inform the Military Fund too, how Mess opinion has increased the list of—pretty wives and widows! Tell the truth Sirs, and—tell this! others will say, if you live like a gentleman, you can do so cheaper in the Mess than out. Such gentlemen are to be pitied, not laughed at. Try it. I have; and only on those occasions have I known comfort, or—lived like a gentleman, because I paid my way; I lived on my own means, not on my creditors. (Hence the general wish for command, Detachment duties) If this is no refutation to men of such gentlemanly ideas, I direct them to where the excess of their fine feeling often leads—a Jail! Oh, that I were standing before the Honorable Court of Directors! I would tickle their fancies with such a proposition: draw all their thoughts completely from Tea and China. Shall I tell you Reader?—don't laugh, faith you will though, for that's your way, (as Byron says) when you detect yourself a fool.—It is to make the army better, more united, and happy, by reducing half their pay, (ahista zarah) doubtless, in your minds' eye as they say,—you see one of the understrappers of the office, sculking out for a strait jacket. No such thing; no one is accounted mad, who talks in that way before the Court.—“How do you mean Sir, the army has been a constant plague to us, the only factious child in our otherwise good family;—the more we give the more they want, and—how do you explain the apparent enigma of your proposition, do you seriously imagine the army would consent to it? Certainly, the Officers,—because it is for their good. You may add something to the pay of the poor Sepoy, or what's better,—tell him he's no beast of burthen—well then—knock down your bugbear Messes, and between ourselves, while groping in their dirt, you may pocket the house rent. We are men now papa, take away our rattle, or change it, for a—fool's cap! The fact is gentlemen, it's a visionary scheme to think of benefitting your Officers by increasing their pay, unless you increase their lease also. Are there men who think me a fool, or this bad advice? I ask it in their ruined fortunes and impaired constitutions. Ask the man of twenty, and him of thirty, if India is to be his home, and the chances are he'll not answer, or condescending—you'll not ask again. With home and its associations continually in our minds, we are the industrious Sappers of our fondest hopes. This is no place, and alas! we need not tell “the whole truth” as some madman says, but we'll imagine a common occurrence—A young man joining his corps for the first time, and not being originally well stocked with money, and wishing like young men to “cut a dash,” he leaves the Presidency, well freighted with the best wishes of many a respectable man there; and imagine him well installed in his Mess, which means vice, and in its books, which means folly; and imagine too,—nonsense, you have imagined the worst already! If any one wish to show such contempt for—the knowledge of human nature, and say, a man should use discretion, and suit his wants to his means; as far as that man is concerned I have written this for nothing, inasmuch, as that being part of my intention to tell him, I of necessity refute my argument, if I preach at the Mess table. Have you not already seen the Mess,—a hot bed of the weaker passions, which in their growth and strength, obtrude the uglier branches of Vice? Have you forgot “Pride,” “Self Importance.” “Consequence of Opinion? Have you overlooked the terms so choking to

* It's a fact, I know many cases, and can relate one of an officer, who declares that his first idea of Matrimony arose from his desire to leave the mess; an evil but less than the one shown from. One only propagates, the other spoils propagation.

Youth,—“Stinginess” and its train? Have you forgot yourself? Have you?—suspend your judgment then, and dine with me. Whole columns could be written, to unveil the evil tendency of our Messes as they are, and I fear ever will be. Like a poisonous tree, root and branch should be destroyed. But if that Chinese fanaticism of habit, that I before alluded to, be still the prop of the rickety old Toner, then let me point out where the masonry is very weak. Colonels and Staff Officers—you are living at the expense of the Ensign of your Regiment—upon Abstracts of 180 Rs. a month! your Butler’s don’t tell you so, but allow me. Have you Pride?—you have risen to Rank and Honors, some to Fame in your corps—then why ashamed of them? Have you feelings?—none, you leave us to support the parent that cherished you! The parties of courtesy, incidental to the present state of society, given by Regt. to Regt. are not given to you, or to me, or to any one, but to the Corps, to its member: and surely to you should belong the honor. Truly you should fill it, trebly bear the expense; yet we never see your money! To the married Sub with Tens, (and at least half a dozen *pledges of Happiness*!) is imposed this necessity; but not to the bachelor Colonel with Hundreds. Your Regiments have gained laurels, or suffered disgrace—Can you know joy or mortification? Not unless you blush at this truth! erase your names from our books, they are dead letters; or—balance your accounts, your credit’s at stake. No, I’ll make friends with you, and compound easier terms with your consciences, for your notes of—no mess. I shall not tire myself or reader any longer. I feel convinced, for the reason that I have produced evil and shown good, (as they say in the pulpit) that you’ll not bite a bit the better for it: so will conclude, by epitomising a recapitulation of facts, which you may repeat to yourselves every day while taking the air—to your mess houses. Our mess system is bad, because the members are too few, and in consequence their pecuniary means inadequate—because the members are mostly young men, and inexperienced—because the effect of these two bads, works a very bad—because we often find a mess house a mile from a man’s quarters, who must proceed thither, (thermometer 120) to the detriment of appetite, health, and common sense. (The last’s a blunder, there is none)—because the oldest (and I suppose best) officer tell us that they don’t, or won’t belong to it—because Commanding Officers often make a—“Farce of it”—because if from good principle we withdraw our names, they tack on “Insubordination”—because, taking into consideration our members, you may chance to find at table, in the only person—the only one you never wish to see again—because,—pugh,—I can never cease talking about it.

If messes under eight or ten were disallowed, and other grievances adjusted that I have shown, it would be better; but I am firmly convinced, if the Dictatorship were taken off, and it became altogether a case of “opinion,” the very best consequences would ensue. We should still find messes, for we have no wish to act the Hermit, but they would be messes of unanimity and friendship. With the censor’s power in our own hands, we should correct abuse or fly it. Dear Ensigns, I have written thus much to show, not certainly that I can write, but—“the error of our ways”—I am no “new light,” I hate the character as we find it as I hate the devil, or—the Mess! nor am I a “skin flint,” but the very commonest description of yourselves, who has, for the benefit of self and cast, shown “we live as though, ’twere folly to be wise” I love society and friends, but above all a good dinner, and a bottle or two of Hodgson, which you’ll allow cannot be properly digested, without the soothing assistance of long Trichies.—To perpetuate Ramasawmy; to multiply blessings; to make reason and happiness, life companions; to combine pleasures with temperance, and comfort with our means;

in fact, to be the real gentleman at home, instead of the nominal one at the mess, that I offer you the benefit of—Experience.

Note.—Since writing the above, a friend has given me an unanswerable proof of the advantages of Mess, and as a fair dealer would wish to show both the front and rear of his argument, you shall know it—"The only good that I see in a mess, is in the word,—so beautiful to swear by." My friend's an emerald and loves an oath. Now I no more understood what he meant, than you, but he went on—does not the world consider swearing at best a great folly?—truly. Then swear by the greatest—a mess! I confess I was taken a-back, but Murphy's a shrewd fellow. Every body knows Obadiah's celestial volubility on this head. In later days I knew a Colonel, a capital old boy, who always swore by a "nutmeg grater," but doubtless he had good cause. The ancients, the Military dogs, swore by their swords; but oh, ye moderns, (Byron) ye have the light of reason—a Mess!

INDIAN ARMY.

Short Account of the Rise, Progress, and Character of the Native Army of India, written by Sir John Malcolm in 1816, at the desire of the late Lord Buckinghamshire.*

One of the principal means by which the conquest of India has been made, and the one to which we must chiefly trust for its defence, is the native army of the East India Company; of the rise and progress of which I shall endeavour to give a short account, from the best materials to which I have access, being satisfied that a full knowledge of the composition and character of this branch of our army, which exceeds 150,000 men, is essential to those who are entrusted with the legislature or government of our Eastern empire. Captain Williams's published account I have met with, of the origin and formation of that part of this great army which more particularly belongs to Bengal; but I have made it my duty to look to other sources of information, that I may be able to take the most comprehensive view of a subject so vital to our Eastern empire. I shall endeavour to trace the progress of the native troops at Madras and Bombay, before I examine the facts brought before the public by Captain Williams. A combined view of the whole may suggest some reflections on the means which appear best calculated to maintain the efficiency and preserve the attachment of the Indian army.

Though Bombay was the first possession which the English obtained in the East, the establishment on that island was for a very long period on too limited a scale to maintain more than its European garrison and a few companies of disciplined sepoys. On the coast of Coromandel, which became towards the middle of the last century, a scene of warfare between the English and French, who mutually aided and received support from the princes of that quarter, the natives of India were first instructed in European discipline. During the siege of Madras, which took place in A. D. 1746, a number of peons, a species of irregular infantry, armed with swords, and spears, or matchlocks, were enlisted for the occasion; to those some English officers were attached, among whom a young gentleman of the civil service, of the name of Haliburton, was the most distinguished. This gentleman who had been rewarded with the commission of a lieutenant, was em-

* Lord Buckinghamshire died before this account was completed, and it was afterwards converted into a review of a work, entitled "The Narrative of the Bengal Army by Captain Williams."

ployed in the ensuing year in training a small corps of natives in the European manner; he did not however live to perfect that system, which he appears to have first introduced into the Madras service.

"It was by one of our own sepoys" (the Council of Fort St. David observe, in a despatch dated 2d September, 1748, in which they pass an eulogium on the character of Mr. Haliburton,) that he had the misfortune to be killed, who shot him upon his reprimanding him for some offence. The poor gentleman," they add, "died next day, and the villain did not live so long, for his comrades that stood by cut him to pieces immediately."

It appears from other authorities, that the first sepoys who were raised by the English were either Mahomedans or Hindoos of very high caste, being chiefly Rajpoots; and the event I have related marked the two strongest feelings of the minds of these classes—resentment for real or supposed injury; and attachment to their leader. The name of Mr. Haliburton was long cherished by the Madras native troops, and about twenty years ago, on an examination of old grants, some veterans wearing medals, appeared as claimants, who called themselves Haliburton Sahib Ka sepey, or Haliburton's soldiers. One of the first services on which the regular sepoys of Madras were employed was the defence of Arcot, A. D. 1751. The particulars of that siege, which forms a remarkable feature in the life of the celebrated Clive, have been given by an eloquent and faithful historian;* but he has not informed us of one occurrence that took place, and which, as it illustrates the character of the Indian soldiers, well merited to be preserved. When provisions were very low, the Hindoo sepoys entreated their commander to allow them to boil the rice (the only food left) for the whole garrison. "Your English soldiers," they said, "can eat from our hands though we cannot from theirs: we will allot as their share every grain of the rice, and subsist ourselves by drinking the water in which it has been boiled." I state this remarkable anecdote from an authority I cannot doubt, as it refers to the most unexceptionable contemporary witnesses.

During all the wars of Clive, of Lawrence, of Smith, and of Coote, the sepoys of Madras continued to display the same valour and attachment. In the year 1780, 1781, and 1782, they suffered hardships of a nature almost unparalleled; there was hardly a corps that was not twenty months in arrears; they were supported, it is true, by a daily allowance of rice, but this was not enough to save many of their families from being the victims of that dreadful famine which during these years wasted the Company's dominions in India. Their fidelity never gave way in this hour of extreme trial, and they repaid with gratitude and attachment, the kindness and consideration with which they were treated by their European officers, who, being few in number, but generally speaking, very efficient, tried every means that could conciliate the regard, excite the pride, or stimulate the valour of those they commanded.

In the campaigns of 1790 and 1791, against Tippoo Sultan, the sepoys of this establishment showed their usual zeal and courage, but the number of European troops now intermixed with them, lessened their opportunities of distinguishing themselves, and though improved in discipline, they perhaps fell in their own estimation. The native army in some degree became a secondary one, and the pride of those of whom it was composed was lowered. I am neither questioning the necessity of the increased number of his majesty's troops which were employed in India at this period, nor the propriety of allotting to their superior strength and active courage services of

* Orme,

the greatest danger, and consequently of pre-eminent honour ; I only speak to the effect which the change made in the minds of the native army. The campaigns of Lord Cornwallis and General Meadows were certainly not inferior either in their operations or results to those of Sir Eyre Coote : but every officer can tell how differently they are regarded by the sepoys who served in both : the latter may bring to their memory the distresses and hardships which they suffered, and perhaps the recollection of children who perished from famine, but it is associated with a sense of their own importance, at that period, to the government they served, with the pride of fidelity and patient valour. The pictures of these three distinguished leaders are in the great room of the Exchange at Madras ; to these (I speak of ten years ago) when a battalion comes into garrison the old sepoys lead their families. Wallis and Meadows (these are the names by which the two first commanders are known to them) are pointed out as great and brave chiefs ; but it is to the image of their favourite, Coote, the pilgrimage is made, and the youngest of their children are taught to pay a respect bordering on devotion to this revered leader.

In the year 1796, new regulations were introduced into the Indian army, the whole form of which was in fact changed. Instead of single battalions of a thousand men, commanded by a captain who was selected from the European corps in the Honourable Company's service, and a subaltern to each company, they were formed into regiments of two battalions, to which officers were appointed of the same rank and nearly of the same number as to the battalions in the service of his majesty. The good effects of this change, as far as related to the temper and attachment of the native army of Fort St. George, have been questioned. That the appearance and discipline of these troops have been improved there is no doubt ; and they have, in the campaign against Seringapatam in 1796, and in the recent war with the Mahrattas, shown their usual patience and courage ; but events have occurred to prove, that their affections were not only capable of being alienated from their European officers, but that they could become their murderers. It is not meant here to enter into the particulars of the mutiny at Vellore, which came like a shock to dispel the charm of half a century, and to show by what a tenure our empire is held : But it is thought by many, this event could not have taken place had the ties which formerly existed in the native army not been much weakened, if not entirely broken. Of what has since occurred I forbear to speak, but I am assured that time and the efforts of great wisdom can alone afford a hope of radical cure to the deep wounds that have been inflicted.

The general history of the native army of Fort St. George is short. Sepoys were first disciplined, as has been stated, on that establishment in 1748, they were at that period, and for some time afterwards, in independent companies, under subadars or native captains. Mahomed Esuf, one of the most distinguished of those officers, rose by his talents and courage to the general command of the whole ; and the name of this hero, for such he was, occurs almost as often in the page of the English historian * of India as that of Lawrence and Clive. As the number of the native army increased, the form changed. In A. D. 1766, we find ten battalions of 1000 men each, and three European officers to each corps. In 1770 there were eighteen battalions of similar strength, and in 1784 the number of this army had increased to 2000 native cavalry and 28,000 infantry : a considerable reduction is made at this period, but subsequent wars and conquests have caused a great increase, and the present effective strength of the native army of Fort St. George con-

* Orme.

sists of eight regiments of cavalry, and twenty-four regiments or forty-eight battalions of native infantry. There are besides several troops of horse artillery, some battalions of gun lascars, and a very large invalid establishment.

A few remarks on the appearance and conduct of this army, with some anecdotes of remarkable individuals, will fully illustrate its character, and convey a just idea of the elements of which it is composed.

The native cavalry of Fort St. George was originally raised by the Nabob of the Carnatic. The first corps embodied into a regiment under the command of European officers, on the suggestion of General Joseph Smith, served in the campaign of 1768 in the Mysore. From 1771 to 1776 the cavalry force was greatly augmented, but then again declined both in numbers and efficiency. The proportion that was retained nominally in the service of the Nabob, but actually in that of the Company, served in the campaigns of 1780, 1781, 1782, and 1783, was formally transferred, with the European officers attached to it, to the Company's service in 1784. The prospect of fortune which the liberality of an Indian prince offered, attracted to this corps many active and enterprising European officers, and the favour which a native court extended to its choicest troops, filled the ranks of its regiments of regular cavalry with the prime of the Mahomedan youth* of the Carnatic. When this corps was in the service of the Nabob of the Carnatic, though it was often very highly distinguished, the intrigues of a venal court, and irregular payments caused frequent mutinies. Since it has been transferred to the Company's establishment, a period of more than thirty years, its career has been one of faithful service and of brilliant achievement, unstained by any example, that I can recollect, of disaffection or of defeat. The two severest trials of the courage and discipline of this corps were at Assaye and Vellore; in both these services they were associated with the 19th dragoons.

The distinguished commander† of that gallant regiment had, from the day of its arrival in India, laboured to establish the ties of mutual and cordial regard between the European and native soldiers. His success was complete. His own fame, while he remained in India, was promoted by their combined efforts, and the friendship which he established, and which had continued for many years, after his departure consummated upon the plains of Assaye. At the most critical moment of a battle, which ranks amongst the hardest fought of those that have been gained by the illustrious Wellington, the British dragoons, when making their extremest efforts, saw their Asiatic fellow-soldiers, "keep pace for pace, and blow for every blow." A more arduous task awaited the latter, when the battalions of native infantry which formed the garrison of Vellore, were led by the infatuation of the moment to rise upon and murder the Europeans of that garrison. The fidelity of the native cavalry did not shrink from the severe trial, and after the gates of the fortress were blown open, their sabres were as deeply stained as those of the English dragoons with the blood of their misguided and guilty countrymen‡.

But a few authentic anecdotes of some of the most distinguished individuals of the native cavalry of Madras, will show better than volumes the high spirit which pervades that corps.

* There cannot be men more suited, from their frame and disposition, for the duty of light cavalry than those of which this corps is composed. They are generally speaking from five feet five, to five feet ten inches in height, of light but active make. Their strength is prepared and improved by moderation in their diet, and by exercises common to the military tribes, and calculated to increase the muscular force.

† The present General Sir John Floyd. Bart.

‡ I state this fact upon the high authority of a respectable officer, who belonged to the 19th dragoons, and was with them on this memorable occasion.

* In the campaign of 1791, when Seronder Beg, one of the oldest subadars of the native cavalry, was riding at a little distance in the flank of his troop, two or three horsemen of Tippoo's army favoured by some brushwood, came suddenly upon him; the combat had hardly commenced, when the son of the subadar, who was a havildar or serjeant in the same regiment, flew to his father's aid, and slew the foremost of his opponents; the others fled: but nothing could exceed the rage of the old man at his son's conduct; he put him instantly under a guard, and insisted upon his being brought to condign punishment for quitting his ranks without leave. It was with the greatest difficulty that Colonel Floyd, who commanded the force, could reconcile him to the disgrace he conceived he had suffered (to use his own expression) from his enemy "being taken from him by a presumptuous boy in front of his regiment."

Cawder Beg, late subadar of the fourth regiment, may be deemed throughout his life as one of the most distinguished officers of the native cavalry at Madras. In 1790, he was attached to Colonel Floyd as an orderly subadar, when that officer, who had been reconnoitering with a small detachment, was attacked by a considerable body of the enemy's horse. Nothing but the greatest exertions of every individual could have saved the party from being cut off. Those of Cawder Beg were the most conspicuous, and they received a reward of which he was proud to the last hour of his life: an English sabre was sent to him, with the name of Colonel Floyd upon it, and an inscription, stating that it was the reward of valour. But personal courage was the least quality of Cawder Beg; his talents eminently fitted him for the exercise of military command. During the campaign of 1799, it was essential to prevent the enemy's looties, a species of Cossack horse, from penetrating between the columns and the rear guard, and plundering any part of that immense train of provisions and luggage, which it was necessary to carry to Seringapatam. Cawder Beg, with two or three of his relations from the native cavalry and a select body of infantry, were placed under my orders. I was then political representative with the army of the subah of the Deckan, and commanded a considerable body of the troops of that prince. I had applied for Cawder Beg on account of his reputation, and prevailed upon Meer Allum, the leader of the subah's forces, to place a corps of 2000 of his best regular horse under the subadar's orders. Two days after the corps was formed, an orderly trooper came to tell me, that Cawder Beg was engaged with some of the enemy's horsemen. I hastened to the spot with some alarm for the result, determined, if Cawder Beg was victor, to reprove him most severely for a conduct unsuited to the station at which he had been placed. The fears I entertained for his safety were soon dispelled, as I saw him advancing on foot with two swords in his hand, which he hastened to present to me, begging at the same time I would restrain my indignation at his apparent rashness till I heard his reasons; then, speaking to me aside, he said, "Though the General of the Nizam's army was convinced by your statement of my competence to the command you have entrusted me with, I observed that the high-born and high-titled leaders of the horse he placed under my orders looked at my close jacket,* straight pantaloons, and European boots, with contempt, and thought themselves disgraced by being told to obey me. I was therefore tempted, on seeing a well-mounted horseman of Tippoo's, challenge their whole line, to accept a combat which they declined. I promised not to use fire-arms, and succeeded in cutting him down; a relation came to avenge his death; I wounded him, and have brought him prisoner.

* The native troops in the English service wear a uniform very like that of Europeans.

You will," he added smiling, "hear a good report of me at the durbar (court) of Meer Allum this evening, and the service will go on better for what has passed, and I promise most sacredly to fight no more single combats."

When I went in the evening to visit the Meer Allum, I found at his tent a number of the principal chiefs, and among others those that had been with Cawder Beg, with those praises I was assailed from every quarter, "He was," they said, "a perfect hero, a Ru-tum* ; it was an honor to be commanded by so great a leader." The consequence was, as the subadar had anticipated, that the different chiefs who were placed under him vied in respect and obedience; and so well were the incessant efforts of this body directed, that scarcely a load of grain was lost; hardly a day passed that the activity and stratagem of Cawder Beg did not delude some of the enemy's plunderers to their destruction.

It would fill a volume to give a minute account of the actions of this gallant officer: he was the native aide-de-camp of General Dugald Campbell, when that officer reduced the Cadet Districts;† he attended Sir Arthur Wellesley (the present Duke of Wellington) in the campaign of 1803, and was employed by that officer in the most confidential manner. At the end of this campaign, during which he had several opportunities of distinguishing himself, Cawder Beg, who had received a pension from the English Government, and whose pride was flattered by being created an omorah‡ of the Deckan by the Nizam, retired, but he did not long enjoy the distinction he had obtained: he died in 1806, worn out with the excessive fatigue to which he had for many years exposed himself.

The body guard of the Governor of Madras, which consists of about 100 men, has always been a very select corps, and the notice and attention with which both the native officers and men of the corps have invariably been treated may be adduced as one of the causes which have led to its obtaining distinction in every service on which it has been employed.

On the 13th of May, 1791, Lord Cornwallis returned his thanks in the warmest manner to the small corps and its gallant commanding officer, Captain Alexander Grant, for a charge made upon the enemy. It obtained still further distinction under Captain James Grant, the brother of its former commander, when employed, in the year 1801, against the Poligars, a race of warlike men who inhabit the southern part of the Madras territory. There are indeed few examples of a more desperate and successful charge than was made during that service by this small corps upon a phalanx of resolute pikemen, more than double its own numbers; and the behaviour of Shaikh Ibrahim, the senior subadar (a Native Captain) on that occasion, merits to be commemorated.

This officer, who was alike remarkable for his gallantry and unrivalled skill as a horseman, anticipated, from his experience of the enemy, all that would happen. He told Captain Grant what he thought would be the fate of those who led the charge at the same moment that he urged it, and heard with animated delight the resolution of his commander to attempt an exploit which was to reflect such glory on the corps. The leaders of the body guard and almost one third of its number fell as was expected; but the shock broke the

* The Persian Hercules.

† These districts which were ceded to the English Government by the treaty of Seringapatam in 1799, lie between Mysore Proper, and the territories of the Subah of the Deckan.

‡ He received the title of Cawder Nuaz Khan, or Cawder the Favoured Lord.

order of their opponents, and they obtained a complete victory. Shaikh Ibrahim was pierced with several pikes, one was in the throat; he held his hand to this, as if eager to keep life till he asked the fate of Captain Grant. The man of whom he inquired pointed to that officer, who was lying on the ground and apparently dead, with a pike through his lungs; the subadar with an expression of regret, that he had disdained to show for his own fate, pulled the pike from the wound and instantly expired. His character and his behaviour in the last moment of existence are fully described in the following general order, which was issued on this occasion by the Government of Fort St. George.

"A rare combination of talents has rendered the character of Shaikh Ibrahim familiar to the officers of the army: to cool decision and daring valour, he added that sober judgment and those honourable sentiments that raised him far above the level of his rank in life. An exploit of uncommon energy and personal exertion terminated his career, and the last effort of his voice breathed honour, attachment, and fidelity.

"The Governor in Council, desirous of showing to the army his Lordship's * sense of the virtues and attainments which have rendered the death of this Native officer a severe loss to the service, has been pleased to confer on his family a pension equal to the pay of a subadar of the body guard, being 30 pagodas a month. And his Lordship has further directed that a certificate to this effect, translated into Persian and Hindoostanee, may be presented to the family, as a record of the gift, and a tribute to the memory of the brave Subadar Shaikh Ibrahim."

The posthumous praise given to Shaikh Ibrahim appeared to have inspired others with a desire to share his fate, that they might attain his fame. A jemadar of the same corps, some days afterwards, being appointed with a few select men to watch a road, where it was thought the chief whom they were attacking might try to escape with one or two followers, determined, when a whole column came out, to make an attempt against its leader, and such was the surprise at seeing five or six horsemen ride into a body between 200 or 300 men, that he had cut down the chief before they had recovered from their astonishment; he succeeded in riding out of the column, but was soon afterwards shot. He had, when he meditated this attack, sent a person to inform Captain Grant (who had recovered of his wound) of his intention, "The Captain will discover," he observed, "that there are more Shaikh Ibrahims than one in the body guard." Captain Grant, when the service was over, erected tombs over these gallant officers: a constant lamp is kept at them, which is supported by a trifling monthly donation from every man in the body guard, and the noble spirit of the corps is perpetuated by the contemplation of these regimental shrines (for such they may be termed) of heroic valour.

Shah Mohedeen, a subadar of the body guard of Madras, who was one of the first officers appointed to the corps of native horse artillery, recently raised on that establishment accompanied me to Persia, and was left with a detachment of his corps, under the command of Captain Lindsay, to aid in instructing the Persians in military tactics. This small body of men and their gallant European commander were engaged in several campaigns in Georgia, and their conduct has obtained not only for the subadar, but for all the men of his party, marked honours and rewards, both from the Persian Govern-

* Lord Clive (the present Lord Powis) was at this period Governor of Madras; and it is but justice to that nobleman to state, that virtue, talent, or valour, either in European or Native, were certain, under his administration, of attaining distinction and reward.

ment and their own. Their exertions received additional importance from the scene on which they acted, for it is not easy to calculate the future benefits which may result from the display of the superior courage and discipline of the native soldiers of India on the banks of the Araxes.

The native infantry of Madras is generally composed of Mahomedans and Hindoos of good caste : at its first establishment none were enlisted but men of high military tribes. In the progress of time a considerable change took place, and natives of every description were enrolled in the service. Though some corps that were almost entirely formed of the lowest and most despised races of men obtained considerable reputation, it was feared their encouragement might produce disgust and particularly when they gained as they frequently did, the rank of officers. Orders were in consequence given to recruit from none but the most respectable classes of society, and many consider the regular and orderly behaviour of these men as one of the benefits which have resulted from this system.

The infantry sepoy of Madras is rather a small man, but he is of an active make, and capable of undergoing great fatigue, upon a very slender diet. We find no man arrive at greater precision in all his military exercises : his moderation, his sobriety, his patience, give him a steadiness that is almost unknown to Europeans : but though there exists in this body of men a fitness to attain mechanical perfection as soldiers there are no men whose mind it is of more consequence to study. The most marked general feature of the character of the natives of India is a proneness to obedience accompanied by a great susceptibility of good or bad usage ; and there are few in that country who are more imbued with these feelings than the class of which we are now treating. The sepoys of Madras, when kindly treated, have invariably shown great attachment to the service ; and when we know that this class of men can be brought, without harshness or punishment, to the highest discipline, we neither can nor ought to have any toleration for those who pursue a different system ; and the Commander-in-chief is unfit for his station who grants his applause to the mere martinet, and forgets, in his intemperate zeal, that no perfection in appearance and discipline can make amends for the loss of the temper and attachment of the Native soldiers under his command.

We discover in the pages of Orme many examples of that patient endurance of privations and fatigue, and that steady valour, which has since characterized the Native infantry of Fort St. George. Their conduct in the war against Hyder Ally in 1766 was such as justly to entitle them to admiration. In the battle of Trincomalee and Molwaggle they displayed all the qualifications of good and steady soldiers ; and it was during this war that the 5th battalion of Native infantry, commanded by Captain Calvert, distinguished itself by the defence of Ambore, and obtained the honour of bearing a representation of that mountain fortress on one of its standards. To the campaigns of Sir Eyre Coote we have already alluded, and have spoken of the unshaken fidelity which the sepoys of Madras evinced at that trying juncture : but if a moment was to be named when the existence of the British power depended upon its native troops, we should fix upon the battle of Porto Novo. Driven to the sea shore, attacked by an enemy exulting in recent

* In old corps, that have been chiefly recruited within the territories which have been long in the possession of the Company, desertion is of very rare occurrence.

The first battalion of the 3d Native Infantry marched, in 1803, from near Madara (of which district, and Trichinopoly, a great proportion of its men were natives) to the banks of the Taptée ; a distance of above a thousand miles, without one desertion !

success,* confident in his numbers and strong in the terror of his name, every circumstance combined that could dishearten the small body of men on whom the fate of the war depended : not a heart shrunk from the trial. Of the European troops it is of course superfluous to speak : but all the native battalions appear, from every account of the action, to have been entitled to equal praise on this memorable occasion ; and it is difficult to say whether they were most distinguished when suffering with a patient courage under a heavy cannonade, when receiving and repulsing the shock of the flower of Hyder's cavalry, or when attacking in their turn the troops of that monarch, who, baffled in all his efforts, retreated from this field of anticipated conquest with the loss of his most celebrated commander and thousands of his bravest soldiers.

I shall not dwell upon the different actions in the war against Tippoo and the Mahrattas in which the Madras sepoys signalized themselves, but merely state some anecdotes of corps and individuals which appear calculated to give a fair impression of the general character of this class of the defenders of our empire in India.

The natives of India have, generally speaking, a rooted dislike to the sea ; and when we consider the great privations and hardships to which Hindoos of high caste are subject on a long voyage, during which some of them from prejudices of caste, subsist solely on parched grain, we feel less surprise at the occasional mutinies which have been caused by orders for their embarkation than at the zeal and attachment they have often shown upon such trying occasions.

A mutiny had occurred in the 9th battalion when ordered to embark for Bombay, in 1779 or 1780, which however had been quelled by the spirit and decision of its Commandant, Captain Kelly. A more serious result had accompanied a similar order for the embarkation of some companies of a corps in the Northern Circars, who, when they came to Vizagapatam, the port where they were to take shipping, had risen upon their European officers, and in their violence shot all except one or two who escaped on board the vessel appointed to carry their men.

These events rendered Government averse to a repetition of experiments which had proved so dangerous ; but in the year 1795, when the island of Ceylon, and the possessions of the Dutch in the Eastern Seas were to be reduced, Lord Hobart†, who was then Governor of Fort St George, made a successful appeal to the zeal and attachment of the native troops, who volunteered in corps for foreign service.

* The defeat of Colonel Baillie's detachment, which occurred at the commencement of this war. The defeat has been variously attributed to bad arrangements in the general plans of the campaign, to mismanagement on the part of the commanding officer, and to the misconduct of the native troops. It is probable all these causes combined to produce this great misfortune ; but we must recollect that the native battalions that were chiefly accused of bad behaviour on this occasion, were raw levies, who had never before seen service, and most of whom had hardly been in the army a sufficient time to be disciplined. The men composing these corps had been hastily raised in the Circars, or northern possessions of Madras, and their conduct created a prejudice (which experience has since proved to be unjust) against recruits from this quarter.

† Lord Hobart afterwards Earl of Buckinghamshire (at whose desire this Memorandum was written,) was very successful in inspiring zeal in every branch of the Government under his charge, and his attention was peculiarly directed to the conciliation of the natives. The local information he acquired at this period was subsequently matured by a study of the general interests of the Indian empire ; and the life of this virtuous nobleman terminated at a moment when his services, from the high station he had attained of President of the Board of Control, were most valuable to his country.

A still greater call for men was necessary when an army was formed in 1797, for the attack of Manilla; and many of the best battalions in the service showed a forwardness to be employed on this expedition. Among these, one of the most remarkable for its appearance and discipline was a battalion of the 22d regiment. This fine corps was commanded by Lieut.-Colonel James Oram,* an officer not more distinguished for his personal zeal and gallantry, than for a thorough knowledge of the men under his command, whose temper he had completely preserved, at the same time that he had imparted to them the highest perfection in their dress and discipline. When he proposed to his corps, on parade, to volunteer for Manilla, they only requested to know whether Colonel Oram would go with them: the answer was, "He would." "Will he stay with us?" was the second question, the reply was in the affirmative: the whole corps exclaimed, "To Europe, to Europe!" and the alacrity and spirit with which they subsequently embarked showed they would as readily have gone to the shores of the Atlantic as to an island of the Eastern Ocean. Not a man of the corps deserted from the period they volunteered for service till they embarked; and such was the contagion of their enthusiasm, that several sepoys who were missing from one of the battalions in garrison at Madras, were found, when the expedition returned, to have deserted to join the 22d under Colonel Oram. We state this anecdote† with a full impression of the importance of the lesson it conveys. It is through their affections alone that such a class of men can be well commanded.

I find in the Madras Native army many instances of unconquerable attachment to the service to which they belong. Among these none can be more remarkable than that of Syed Ibrahim, commandant of the Tanjore cavalry, who was made prisoner by Tippoo Sultan in 1781. The character of this distinguished officer was well known to his enemy, and the highest rank and station were offered to tempt him to enter into the employment of the state of Mysore. His steady refusal occasioned his being treated with such rigor, and was attended, as his fellow-prisoners (who were British officers) thought, with such danger to his life, that they, from a generous feeling, contemplating his condition as a Mahomedan and a native of India as in some essential points different from their own, recommended him to accept the offers of the Sultan; but the firm allegiance of Syed Ibrahim would admit of no compromise, and he treated every overture as an insult. His virtuous resolution provoked at last the personal resentment of Tippoo, and when the English prisoners were released in 1784, the commandant was removed to a dungeon in the mountain fortress of Conley Droog, where he terminated his existence. His sister who had left her home in the Carnatic to share the captivity of her brother, was subsequently wounded in the storming of Seringapatam. She, however, fortunately recovered, and the Government of Fort St. George granted her a pension of fifty-two pagodas and a half per month, or 250*l.* per annum, being the full pay of a native commandant of cavalry. A tomb was also erected at the place where Syed Ibrahim died; and Government endowed it with an establishment sufficient to maintain a fakcer or priest, and to keep two lamps continually burning at the shrine of this faithful soldier.

* This officer has been dead upwards of fifteen years.

† The attachment of the Madras sepoys to their service was evinced in a most remarkable manner during the Burmese war. In a body of fifteen or sixteen thousand men who embarked at different periods for Ava, there were not above four or five (if so many) deserters.

* Among the many instances of the effect which pride in themselves, and the notice of their superiors, inspire in this class of troops, I may state the conduct of the first battalion of the eighth regiment of infantry, which became, at the commencement of his career in India, a favourite corps* of the Duke of Wellington. They were with him on every service; and the men of this corps used often to call themselves "*Wellesley ka Pultun*," or Wellesley's battalion, and their conduct on every occasion was calculated to support the proud title they had assumed. A staff officer,† after the battle of Assaye, saw a number of the Mahomedans of this battalion assembled, apparently for a funeral; he asked whom they were about to inter; they mentioned the names of five-commissioned and non-commissioned officers of a very distinguished family in the corps. "We are going to put these brothers‡ into one grave," said one of the party. The officer, who was well acquainted with the individuals who had been slain, expressed his regret, and was about to offer some consolation to the survivors, but he was stopped by one of the men: "There is no occasion," he said, "for such feelings or expressions; these men (pointing to the dead bodies) were sepoys (soldiers); they have died in the performance of their duties; the government they serve will protect their children, who will soon fill the ranks they lately occupied."

Though sensible I have dwelt too long upon this part of my subject, I cannot forbear recording an example of that patience with which the native troops meet privation and distress. In 1804, the subsidiary force in the Deccan, commanded by Colonel Haliburton, was inclosed between two rivers, which became suddenly so swollen as to cut off their supplies of provisions. It was a period of general famine, and the communication was cut off with the grain-dealers, from whom alone they could expect a supply. All the rice in camp was found to be barely sufficient for five days' allowance, at a very reduced rate, to the European part of the force. Issues to the sepoys were stopped, but while they were left to the scanty subsistence they might be able to procure for themselves, they were appointed the sole guards over that grain, from all share in which they were from necessity excluded. This duty was performed with the strictest care, and the most cheerful submission. Fortunately the waters subsided, and an ample supply prevented their feeling that extreme of famine, the prospect of which they had contemplated with an attention to discipline and a composure of mind, which even astonished those best acquainted with their habits of order and obedience.

I have before stated, that it was at Bombay that the first native corps were disciplined by the English. Of the exact date I am ignorant, but regular sepoys are noticed in the account of the transactions of that part of India some time before they were embodied at either Madras or Bengal. A corps of 100 sepoys from Bombay, and 400 from Tellicherry, is mentioned as having joined the army at Madras, in A. D. 1747, and a company of Bombay

* This corps, some years before the period of which we are now speaking, attained very high reputation under Captain Dunwoody, an officer whose memory continues to be respected and cherished in the native army of Fort St. George.

† The respected and distinguished officer, the late Sir Robert Barclay, to whom we owe this and the following anecdote of the Madras troops, concludes a note he has been kind enough to write on the subject with the following remark:—

"I have seen (he observes) the Madras sepoys engaged in great and trifling actions more than fifty times; I never knew them behave ill, or backward, but once, when two havildars (or sergeants) that were next to me quitted their post, from seeing the fire chiefly directed to me; but it is (he adds) but justice to state that, on other occasions, I have owed my life to the gallantry of my covering havildar."

‡ The term "brothers" extends, in India, to first cousins.

sepoys, which had gone with troops from Madras to Bengal, were present at the victory of Plassey. The sepoys at Bombay continued long in independent companies, commanded by subadars or native captains. As the possession and political relations of that settlement were enlarged, its army increased. The companies were formed into battalions under European officers; and during the war with the Mahrattas, A. D. 1780, we find the establishment consisting of fifteen battalions. These, at the termination of the war with Tippoo, 1783, were reduced to six, and one battalion of marines. In 1788, its numbers were augmented to twelve battalions. In 1796, it was re-formed into an establishment of four regiments of two battalions each, from which it has been progressively raised, by the acquisition of territory and subsidiary alliances, to its present establishment of nine regiments of native infantry, of two battalions each, one battalion each of marines, and a small corps of native cavalry.

The men of the native infantry of Bombay are of a standard* very near that of Madras. The lowest size taken is five feet three inches, and the average is five feet five, but they are robust and hardy, and capable of enduring great fatigue upon very slender diet.

This army has, from its origin to the present day, been indiscriminately composed of all classes, Mohamedans, Hindoos, Jews, and some few Christians. Among the Hindoos, those of the lowest tribes of Mahrattas and the Purwaric, Soortee and Frost sects†, are much more numerous than the Rajpoots and higher casts. Jews have always been favourite soldiers in the army, and great numbers of them attain the rank of commissioned officers‡. It is probably owing to the peculiar composition, and to the local situation of the territories in which they are employed, that the sepoys of Bombay have at all periods been found ready to embark on foreign service. They are, in fact familiar to the sea, and only a small proportion of them are incummoded in a voyage by those privations to which others are subject from prejudices of caste. But this is only one of the merits of the Bombay native soldier: he is patient, faithful and brave, and attached in a remarkable degree to his European officers. There cannot be a class of men more cheerful under privation and difficulties; and though desertion is very frequent among the recruits of this army, who, from the local position of Bombay, can, on the first feeling of disgust at discipline, always, in a few hours, escape to the Mahratta territories§, where they are safe from pursuit, there are no men, after they become soldiers, more attached to their colours. I question, indeed, if any army can produce more extraordinary examples of attachment to the government it served and to its officers, than that of Bombay.

Towards the close of the war with Tippoo in 1782, the whole of the force under General Matthews were made prisoners. The sultan, sensible of the advantages he might derive from the accession of a body of well-disciplined

* Since this was written, a considerable change has taken place in the composition of the Bombay native army, but we do not wish to interfere with the narrative by more particularly attending to it.—Ed.

† The Purwarries are generally from the southward of Bombay, the Frost and Soortees from the Northward. These are men of what is termed very low caste, being hardly above what are called pariahs, on the coast of Coromandel.

‡ I write from a memorandum of an officer of rank and experience in the Bombay army. He observes, "the Jews are clean, obedient, and good soldiers, make excellent non-commissioned and commissioned officers, until they arrive at advanced age, when they often fall off, and turn drunkards."

§ This was written previous to the war of 1817-18, by the result of which these territories became subject to the English Government.

men, made every offer that he thought could tempt the English sepoys into his service, but in vain. He ordered them to work upon his fortifications, particularly Chittledroog, which was very unhealthy, upon a seer (two pounds) of raggy (a small grain like mustard seed) and a pice (about a half-penny) per day. On this pittance they were rigidly kept at hard labour through the day, and in close confinement at night, subject to the continued insults of their guards; but neither insults, oppression, nor sickness could subdue their fidelity; and at the peace of 1783, 1,500 of the natives of India*, who had been made prisoners near the mountains of the coast of Malabar, marched a distance of 500 miles to Madras, to embark on a voyage of six or eight weeks, to rejoin the army to which they belonged, at Bombay. During the March from Mysore the guards of the sultan carefully separated those men, whenever they encamped, by a tank (a large reservoir), or some other supposed insurmountable obstacle, from the European prisoners, among whom were their officers. Not a night passed (I write from a paper of an officer of distinction who was a witness of what he states) that some of the sepoys did not elude the vigilance of their guards by swimming across the tank or by passing the sentries, that they might see their officers, to whom they brought such small sums as they had saved from their pittance, begging they would condescend to accept the little all they had to give. "We can live upon any thing," (they used to say,) "but you require mutton and beef."

To the service in Egypt, in 1800, the Bombay troops proceeded with the same alacrity as to every other, and neither the new disorders (to them) of the ophthalmia or plague, from both of which they suffered, abated in the least degree their ardour. It happened that this force and that from Bengal were too late to share in the fame which our arms acquired in Egypt: but we can hardly contemplate an event in any history more calculated to inspire reflection on the character of that transcendent power which our country had attained, than the meeting of her European and Indian army on the shores of the Mediterranean.

During the progress of the war with France, subsequent to 1803, several parties of the marine battalion of Bombay sepoys were captured on board of the Company's cruisers and carried to the Isle of France, where they were treated in a manner that reflects no credit upon the local government of the island, which probably expected that the hardships they endured would make them give way to the temptations continually held out, and induce them to take service: but in this they were disappointed: not one of those men could be persuaded to enter into the employment of the enemies of Great Britain: and when the Isle of France was captured they met with that notice which they had so well merited. The Government of Bombay granted to every individual who survived his captivity—a silver medal, as a memorial of the sense which it entertained of his proved fidelity and attachment.

From the documents in my possession, many examples of individual heroism in the Bombay sepoy might be given, but I shall content myself with two, which will show in a very strong point of view the nature of their attachment to their European officers.

Four years ago, when the commanding officer† of a battalion on the Bombay establishment was proceeding along the banks of a ravine, with eight or ten men of his corps, to search for some lions, which had been seen

* A considerable number of the sepoys taken with General Matthew had, at the hazard of their lives, made their escape from the sultan, and reached Bombay, through the Mahratta territories.

† The present Lieutenant Colonel Hull.

near the cantonment of Kaira, in Guzerat, a royal tiger suddenly sprang upon him. The ground gave way, and the tiger and Major Hull rolled together to the bottom of the ravine. Though this fall prevented the latter from being killed by the first assault still his fate seemed certain; and those who know, from having witnessed it, the terror which the attack of this fierce animal inspires can only appreciate the character of that feeling which led every sepoy who was with him to rush at once to his succour. The tiger fell under their bayonets, though not before it had wounded two of his assailants most desperately; one having lost his leg, and the other being so lacerated as to be rendered unfit for future service as a soldier. These wounds, however were deemed trivial by those who sustained them when they saw that the officer whom they loved had escaped unhurt from his perilous situation.

The second example of the strong feeling of duty is still more remarkable as it was not merely encountering danger, but a devotion to certain death. I take the account of the transaction from a document* in which it was recorded at the period of its occurrence.

In 1797, Captain Pakenham, in H. M. S. *Resistance*, accompanied by some small vessels of war belonging to the Company, took possession of Copong, the chief Dutch settlement on the eastern isle of Timor. Lieutenant Frost of the Bombay marine, commander of the *Intrepid* cruiser, who was to be appointed Governor of Copong, had taken a house on shore, where he expected Captain Pakenham to meet the Dutch Governor, and make arrangements for the future administration of the place. The Malays had formed a plan by which it was settled that the moment Captain Pakenham landed to attend this meeting they were to rise and murder all the Englishmen on shore. Fortunately something occurred to induce Captain Pakenham to defer his visit; but he sent his boat and its reaching the beach was the signal for the commencement of the massacre. Nearly twenty persons were slain. A large party had rushed to Lieutenant Frost's house. The head of his surgeon had been struck off, and his own destruction seemed inevitable, when two sepoys of the Bombay marine battalion whom he landed from his vessel exclaimed to him, "Save yourself by flight, we will fight and die!" at the same time exposing themselves to the fury of the assailants, and giving their commander time to escape to a boat. The sepoys, after a resistance as protracted as they could render it, were slain, and their heads exposed on pikes, explained their fate to their lamenting companions on board the *Intrepid*. Captain Pakenham took prompt and ample vengeance of this treachery; he opened a heavy fire upon the place, under which he landed an efficient force, which defeated the Malays, who fled after losing 200 men.

The length to which I have been led in the account of the native armies of Madras and Bombay must, in some degree, limit the observations on that of Bengal: I shall, therefore, not dwell on details connected with the progress of this army, from a few companies who landed with Lord Clive, in 1756, to its present number, which is upwards of 60,000 effective native soldiers, commanded by about 1,500 European officers†, but content myself with

* Madras newspapers, 27th September, 1797.

† This is independent of the officers of artillery and engineers, and of invalid corps. In 1760, the whole of the European officers in the service of the Company in Bengal amounted to eighteen captains, twenty-six lieutenants, and fifteen ensigns. Subsequent to writing this memoir, the native army of Bengal has been considerably increased.

noticing those facts which appear best calculated to illustrate the disposition and character of materials of which it is composed.

Captain Williams has written a narrative of this army, which, though not perhaps altogether calculated to please the fastidious reader, is throughout simple and intelligible; and the authenticity of the facts is confirmed by the manner in which they are related. His plan evidently was, to give the history of each corps from the period in which it was raised to its dissolution, or till it was formed into a regiment of the present establishment; but, having been an actor in many of the scenes he describes, he is insensibly led into digressions, which, though sometimes tedious, we must pardon, from the curious and interesting matter they contain.

The first battalions raised in Bengal were ten companies of one hundred men each commanded by a captain; with one lieutenant, one ensign, and one or two serjeants. Each company had a standard of the same ground as the facings, with a different device, (suited to its sub-dar, or native captain,) of a sabre, a crescent, or a dagger. The Company's colours with the Union in one corner were carried by the grenadiers. The first battalions were known by the name of the captain by whom they were commanded; and though, in 1764, nineteen corps received a numerical rank, corresponding with the actual rank of their commanders at that period, this did not prevent them from continuing to be known under their former appellation, or from assuming the name of a favourite leader; and it is under these names (which Captain Williams has faithfully preserved) that he gives the history of some of the most distinguished corps in the service. He commences with an account of the 15th battalion, which he informs us was raised in Calcutta, in 1757, and called "the Mathews," from the name of its first commander. This corps was with Colonel Ford, in 1759, when that able officer with the 346 Europeans and 1400 sepoy, besieged and took by storm the strong fortress of Masulipatam, making prisoners a French garrison, who, both in Europeans and natives, were nearly double his numbers. In this daring and arduous enterprise we are told by the historian of India that "the sepoys (who lost in killed and wounded in the storm, 200 men) behaved with equal gallantry as the Europeans, both in the real and false attacks*." In 1763, in the wars with the Vizier of Oude, "the Mathews," which was the force under the command of Major Adams, is stated, when the Company's European regiment was broken by cavalry, to have nobly supported his majesty's 84th regiment, whose courage restored the action. Major Adams died shortly afterwards, and a general mutiny of the whole force took place, in which the sepoys at first joined, but were soon after reclaimed to their duty. Captain Williams at this part enters into a long digression respecting the events of the period. He gives an account of the battle of Buzar which was fought in 1765, and in which all the native corps appeared to have behaved well, though the action was chiefly gained by the courage and discipline of the European part of the force.

In 1782, "the Mathews" was one of three Bengal corps who mutinied, under an apprehension of being embarked for foreign service; and though the conduct of those corps † was remarkable for the total absence of that

* Orme's History of India, vol. iii. p. 49.

† I cannot refrain from giving the following account of this mutiny, which is written by an officer who witnessed it. It is very characteristic of the Bengal sepoys—"The mutiny (this officer observes), excepting a general spirit of murmur and discontent, was confined to the single instance of refusing the service, and whilst in that state, preventing the march of two companies which were ordered to protect

spirit of general insubordination and disposition to outrage by which mutinies of soldiery are usually marked, they were in the ensuing year broken and drafted into some other battalions, "Thus fell the Mathews," (says Captain Williams,) a corps more highly spoken of during the twenty-six years it existed, than any battalion in the service: and at this day, (he adds,) if you meet any of the old fellows who once belonged to it, and ask them what corps they came from, they will erect their heads and say, 'Mathews 'ka Pultun,' or Mathew's battalion."

The present second battalion of the 12th regiment appears, from Captain William's account, to have been raised some months before "the Mathews." He, indeed, calls it the first-raised battalion. This corps was at the battle of Plassey. It was named by the sepoys the Lal Pultan, or the Red * Battalion, and afterwards Gallist, from the name of one of its first captains. It was associated with "the Mathews" in all its early service, particularly at Masulipatam, Gheretty, &c.; but, in 1764, it mutinied, on the pretext of some promises which were made to it having been broken. Having no apparent object, it was easily reduced to obedience; but Major Munro, (afterwards Sir Hector Munro,) who then commanded the army, thought a severe example necessary, and twenty-eight of the most guilty were tried by a drum-head court-martial, and sentenced to death. Eight of these were directed to be immediately blown away from the guns of the force then at Choprah. As they were on the point of executing the sentence, three grenadiers, who happened to be amongst them, stepped forth and claimed the privilege of being blown away from the right hand guns. "They had always fought on the right, (they said,) and they hoped they would be permitted to die at that post of honour." Their request was granted, and they were the first executed. "I am sure (says Captain Williams, who then belonged to the Royal Marines employed in Bengal, and who was an eye witness of this remarkable scene), that there was not a dry eye among the marines, although they had been long accustomed to hard service, and two of them had actually been in the execution party which shot Admiral Byng, in 1757."

This corps subsequently distinguished itself in 1776, at the battle of Korah. It had been known originally as the first battalion. It was after-

stores, &c., prepared for the expedition. The men were not guilty of violence of any description, and treated their officers with the usual respect. The discipline of the corps was carried on as usual; and notwithstanding some of the native officers and men who acted the most conspicuous part were confined in the quarter-guards of their respective regiments, no attempt was made to release them. After a lapse of several weeks, a general court-martial was held, and two subadars, and one or two sepoys, were sentenced to death, by being blown away from the mouth of the cannon. The sentence was carried into execution, in the presence of those troops which had mutinied, excepting one other regiment, which was at the station, without the smallest opposition, or even murmur; and the troops were marched round the spot of execution, amidst the mangled remains of their fellow-soldiers, without any other apparent feeling than the horror which such a scene was calculated to excite, and pity for their fate."

The intended service was given up, and the regiments which had mutinied were pardoned in general orders; but on the return to the Bengal provinces of General Goddard's detachment, the officers and men of the regiments which had mutinied were drafted into those old battalions.

* Probably from its dress.

† The name of this officer (who is still alive) is Galie. The natives of India often corrupt English names in an extraordinary manner: Dalrymple is made into Dal-duffle; Ochterlony, Lonyocheter; Little John, John Little; Sharp, Sunup, &c. &c.

wards numbered the 9th, from the rank of its captain. In a new arrangement of the army it was made the 16th, or the 17th. By the regulations of 1793, it has become the 2d of the 12th regiment; and it has of late years, as we shall hereafter have occasion to mention, far outdone its former fame.

A detachment, composed of six native battalions, a corps of native cavalry, and a proportion of artillery, altogether amounting to 103 European officers, and 6624 native troops, was sent from Bengal to the relief of the settlement of Bombay. Its first rendezvous was Culpee, a town on the right bank of the Jumna, near Cawnpore, whence it commenced its march on the 12th June, 1778. It reached Rajgurh, a town in Bundelcund, on the 17th August, where it halted so much longer than Mr. Hastings thought necessary, that he removed Colonel Leslie, the commanding officer, and appointed Lieutenant-Colonel Goddard to that charge. Under this active and enterprising officer it continued its route through Malwa and Candeish to Surat, presenting the extraordinary spectacle of a corps of the natives of Hindoostan, under the guidance of a few European officers, marching from the banks of the Ganges to the westernmost shores of India. During the five years that they were absent from their home, the men of this detachment conducted themselves in the most exemplary manner, and acquired distinction in every service in which they were employed. I shall not repeat the warm and animated eulogium which Mr. Hastings passed upon this corps in one of the last general orders he issued to the army in Bengal, but all must subscribe to the truth of his observation, that their conduct showed that "there are no difficulties which the true spirit of military enterprise is not capable of surmounting."

The force detached to the Carnatic, in 1781, was commanded by Colonel Pearse. It consisted of five regiments, of two small battalions (500 men each) of native infantry, some native cavalry, and a proportion of artillery. This corps, which marched about 1100 miles along the sea-coast, through the province of Cuttack, and the northern Circars to Madras, arrived at that presidency at a most eventful period, and their services were eminently useful to the preservation of our power in that quarter. Among the many occasions which this detachment had of distinguishing itself, the attack on the French lines at Cuddalore, in 1783, was the most remarkable. The Bengal sepoys that were engaged on that occasion behaved nobly. It was one of the first times that European troops and the disciplined natives of India had met at the bayonet. The high spirit and bodily vigour of the Rajpoots of the provinces of Behar and Benares (the class of which three-fourths of this army was then composed) proved fully equal to the contest. In a partial action, which took place in a sortie made by the French, the latter were defeated with severe loss; and the memory of this event continues to be cherished with just pride both by the officers and men of the Bengal Native army. Had the result of this affair, and the character of these sepoys been more generally known, some of our countrymen would have been freed from that excessive alarm which was entertained for the safety of our Eastern possessions, when the late despot of Continental Europe threatened them with invasion. I trust that every event that can seriously disturb the peace of our Indian empire is at a great distance; but if an European army had crossed the Indus, I should not tremble for its fate. I well know that the approach of such a force would strike no terror into the minds of the men of whom I am writing, and that acting with British troops and led by British officers, they would advance with almost as assured a confidence of victory as against a rabble of their own untrained countrymen. They

might fail; but they are too bold, and too conscious of their own courage and strength, even to anticipate defeat.

I should feel hesitation in stating my sentiments so strongly on this subject, if I did not know them to be those which have been entertained and avowed by many eminent commanders*, who have had opportunities of forming a judgment upon this question. When Colonel Pearce's detachment, which had been reduced by service from 5,000 to 2,000 men, returned to Bengal after an absence of four years, the policy of Mr. Hastings heaped every distinction upon them that he thought calculated to reward their merits, or to stimulate others to future exertion of a similar nature. He visited this corps, and his personal conduct towards both the European officers and natives gave grace to his public measures. A lasting impression† was made on the minds of all; and every favour was doubled by the manner in which it was conferred.

The rebellion of Choyt Singh the Rajah of Benares, in 1781, must be familiar to all acquainted with Indian history. My purpose in mentioning it, is limited to the object of showing the conduct of the Bengal sepoys under one of the severest trials of fidelity to which they were ever exposed.

The numerous followers of the Rajah had risen upon two companies of sepoys appointed to guard the house in which he was placed under restraint, and killed and wounded the whole of them. The rashness of an European officer had led another party to slaughter in the streets of Rannagur. Mr. Hastings, who was at Benares when these events occurred, had only a few companies of sepoys to guard his person, and even these he had no money to support. He summoned corps from different quarters to his aid, but when we reflect on the impression which the first success of Choyt Singh had made, and consider that by far the greatest proportion of the troops with whom Mr. Hastings had overcome the dangers with which he was surrounded, were men of the same tribe and country as those against whom they were to act, and that the chief, who was declared a rebel, and long been considered by many of them as their legitimate prince, we must respect the mind that remained firm and unmoved at so alarming a crisis. The knowledge Mr. Hastings had of the sepoys led him to place implicit trust in them on this trying occasion, and his confidence was well rewarded. Their habits of discipline, and their attachment to their officers and the service, proved superior to the ties of caste and of kindred. Not an instance of defection occurred, and the public interests were preserved and restored by their zeal and valour.

Before I make any remarks on the more recent parts of the history of the Bengal native infantry, I must offer some observations on the composition of

* I can particularly quote the late Lord Lake. No officer ever saw troops under more varied and severe trials than he did the Bengal sepoys. He never spoke of them but with admiration; and was forward to declare, that he considered them equal to a contest with any troops that could be brought against them.

† An officer of rank and distinction (Major-general Sir Henry Worsley) who, when a young subaltern, was an eye-witness of this scene, observes, in a letter which he has written to me on the subject, "Mr. Hastings, dressed in a plain blue coat, with his head uncovered, rode along the ranks. The troops had the most striking appearance of hardy veterans; they were all as black as ink, contrasted with the sleek olive skins of our home corps. The sight of that day (he concludes), and the feelings it excited, have never been absent from my mind; to it, and to the affecting orders which Mr. Hastings issued, I am satisfied I, in a great degree, owe whatever of professional pride and emulation I have since possessed,"

the army of that Presidency. The cavalry, which now consists of eight regiments, is comparatively young; its formation on the present establishment was only just completed when the Mahratta war of 1803 commenced. Their conduct, however, in the severe service that ensued has justly raised their reputation, and they at present form a most efficient and distinguished branch of the army to which they belong*. The men are rather stouter than those in the same corps at Madras. The latter are almost all Mahomedans, and a considerable proportion of the Bengal cavalry are of the same race. The fact is, that with the exception of the Maharatta tribe, the Hindoos are not, generally speaking, so much disposed as the Mahomedans to the duties of a trooper; and though the Mahomedans may be more dissipated and less moral in their private conduct than the Hindoos, they are zealous and high-spirited soldiers, and it is excellent policy to have a considerable proportion of them in the service, to which experience has shown they often become very warmly attached. In the native infantry of Bengal the Hindoos are in the full proportion of three-fourths to the Mahomedans. They consist chiefly of Rajpoots, who are a distinguished race among the Khitree or military tribe. We may judge of the size of these men when we are told that the standard, below which no recruit is taken, is five feet six inches.† The great proportion of the grenadiers are six feet and upwards. The Rajpoot is born a soldier. The mother speaks of nothing to her infant but deeds of arms, and every sentiment and action of the future man is marked by the first impressions that he has received. If he tills the ground, (which is the common occupation of this class,) his sword and shield are placed near the furrow, and moved as his labour advances. The frame of the Rajpoot is almost always improved (even if his pursuits are those of civil life) by martial exercises; he is from habit temperate in his diet, of a generous, though warm temper, and of a good moral conduct; he is, when well treated, obedient, zealous, and faithful. Neither the Hindoo nor the Mahomedan soldier of India can be termed revengeful, though both are prone to extreme violence‡ in points

* It is only to peruse the despatches of the late Lord Lake to be sensible of the excellence this corps very early obtained. I know few military exploits of cavalry more extraordinary than that which he performed with a column of three regiments of British light dragoons and three of native cavalry, supported by some horse artillery and a small reserve of infantry. With this corps his Lordship pursued Jeswunt Row Holkar from Delhi, through the Douab, till he came up with and defeated him at Futtyghur. Lord Lake, in a despatch dated 18th November, in which he gives an account of this operation, observes, "The troops have daily marched a distance of twenty-three or twenty-four miles. During the night and day previous to the action they marched fifty-eight miles, and from the distance to which they pursued the enemy the space passed over, before they had taken up their ground, must have exceeded seventy miles."

† Before 1796 it was always five feet six inches and a half. By an order in 1809, men may be taken for light infantry corps as low as five feet five inches.

‡ One instance is given in Captain Williams' narrative of the action of this violent spirit. 1772 a sepoy of the now first battalion of the 10th regiment, who had suffered what he supposed an injury, fell out of the ranks when the corps was at exercise, and going up to Captain Ewens, the commanding officer, with recovered arms as if to make some request took a deliberate aim, and shot him, then patiently awaited the death he had merited. I could give several examples of similar feeling; two will suffice: - Captain Crook, formerly of the Madras cavalry, struck a sentry for allowing a bullock that brought water to his tent, to step over the threshold and dirty it. The man took no notice of what had occurred till relieved from his post; he then went to his lines, and a short time afterwards sought his captain, and, taking deliberate aim at him, shot him dead upon the spot. He made no attempt to escape. He had avenged his honour from the blows he had received, and met with calmness and fortitude the death that was awarded as the punishment of his crime.

where they deem their honour, of which they have a very nice sense, to be slighted or insulted. The Rajpoots sometimes want energy, but seldom, if ever, courage. It is remarkable in this class, that even when their animal spirits have been subdued so far as to cause a cessation of exertion, they show no fear of death, which they meet in every form it can present itself with surprising fortitude and resignation. Such is the general character of a race of men whose numbers in the army of Bengal amount to between 30,000 and 40,000, and of whom we can recruit in our provinces to any amount. But this instrument of power must be managed with care and wisdom, or that which is our strength may become our danger. It must always be recollected that the minds of the caste we have described are alive to every impulse, and, from the similarity of feelings, will all vibrate at the same touch. If we desire to preserve their attachment, we must continue to treat them with kindness, liberality and justice; we must attend to the most trifling of their prejudices, and avoid rash innovations, but above all, those that are calculated to convey to their minds the most distant alarm in points connected with their usages or religion.

A detachment of Bengal native troops shared in the glory acquired by Lord Cornwallis in his war against Tippoo Sultan in 1790 and 1791. From that time till 1803, the only operation of any consequence in which they were engaged was a short campaign, in Rohilcund, in 1794. The rude and untrained, but fierce and hardy enemies against whom Sir R. Abercrombie had to act, were perhaps too much despised, and they took advantage of a confusion caused in his right wing, by the bad behaviour of the English commandant of a small body of half-disciplined cavalry, to make a furious charge by which a most destructive impression was made on two battalions of sepoy and a regiment of Europeans.

Their desperate career was checked by the fire of the English artillery, by whose good conduct, and the steady valour of the other parts of the line, a victory was ultimately gained. The native troops never, perhaps, displayed more courage than on this trying occasion, and all regretted that the infamous conduct of one man had caused such serious loss of officers and men in some of the most distinguished corps† of the army.

The campaigns of 1803 and 1804 present a series of actions and sieges, in every one of which the Bengal sepoy showed their accustomed valour. At the battles of Delhi and Laswarre they were as eminently distinguished as at

An officer (still living) was provoked at some offence the man had committed, to strike a Madras native trooper under his command. On the night of the same day, as he was sitting with another officer in his tent, the trooper came in, and, taking aim at him, fired; but, owing to the other officer striking his arm, the ball missed. As, however, he fell in the confusion, and the light was extinguished, his companion who considered him killed, ran to obtain aid, and to seize the murderer, who had another pistol in his hand. The moment he was out of the tent, he heard the other pistol go off; and, on returning with a guard of men and some lights, he found that the trooper, conceiving that the first shot had taken effect, and that his honour was avenged by the death of the person who had insulted him, had, with the second pistol, shot himself through the head.

* The name of this officer was Ramsay. He escaped by desertion, from the punishment he had so amply merited.

† The corps on the right of the army was the 13th battalion, which had been eminently distinguished against the French at Cuddalore. It had earned more laurels under its well-known commander, Captain Norman Macleod, in the campaigns of Lord Cornwallis. Captain Ramsay's cavalry rode unexpectedly over this fine battalion, and 5,000 Rohillas, charged it, before it could recover from the confusion into which it was thrown.

the sieges of Agra and Deeg ; and I may safely assert, that in the only two great reverses which occurred during the war, the retreat of Colonel Monson and the siege of Bhurtpure, the courage, firmness and attachment of the native troops were more conspicuous than in its most brilliant periods. We know sufficient of the former operations to regret that no full and faithful account of them has yet been published: nor does Captain Williams's narrative supply this blank. I can only express my conviction, founded on a perusal of a private journal kept by an officer of the detachment, that in this disastrous retreat, the native troops (with the exception of a very few, who, after suffering almost unparalleled hardships, were deluded by the offers of the enemy to desert) behaved in the most noble manner. They endured the greatest privations and distresses, during the march from the banks of the Chumbul in Malwa, where the first retrograde movement was made, till their arrival at Agra, a distance of nearly 400 miles. They had at once to combat the elements (for it rained almost incessantly) and the enemy. Scenes of horror * occurred which were hardly ever surpassed ; yet, though deprived of regular food and rest, and harassed with continued attacks, their spirit was unbroken. They maintained throughout the most severe discipline, and I am assured that on many occasions, when their European officers, worn down by the climate and fatigue, appeared faint or desponding the men next them exclaimed, " Keep up your heart, Sir, we will take you in safety to Agra."† When in square, and sustaining charges from the enemy's horse, it more than once happened, when a musket was fired by a young soldier, that a veteran struck him with the butt end of his firelock, exclaiming, " Are you mad, to destroy " our discipline and make us like the rabble that are attacking us ?"

The only serious impatience that the sepoys of this detachment shewed was to be led against the enemy ; and the manner in which they behaved on all occasions given them of signalizing their valour showed that this feeling had its rise in no vain confidence. The flank companies, under Captain O'Donnell, were very successful in beating up the quarters of a considerable corps of the enemy on the 21st July. On the 24th of August, when all the detachment, which consisted of five battalions and six companies of sepoys, had been sent across the Bannas river, except the 2d battalion of the 2d regiment, and some piquets, Holkar brought up his infantry and guns to attack this corps, which not only defended its position, but advanced with the utmost gallantry, and obtained possession of several pieces of the enemy's artillery. It could not, however, be supported, by the other parts of the force, who were divided from it by the river, and it was almost annihilated. Those who witnessed the attack which it made upon Holkar's line from the opposite bank of the Bannas speak with admiration of the heroism of the European officers, and of the gallant men whom they led to a momentary

* Particularly at the Chumbulle Nullah, a rapid torrent, at which the elephants were employed to carry the troops over. The animals becoming wearied or impatient, shook off those on their backs, numbers of whom were drowned. But a still more horrid scene ensued. The fatigued elephants could not bring over the followers. The Bheels, a mountain banditti, encouraged by Holkar came down upon the unprotected females and childrens whom they massacred in the most inhuman manner. It was on this extreme trial, that some of the gallant fellows who had before suffered every hardship with firmness gave way to despair. Several of them, maddened with the screams of their wives and children, threw themselves, with their firelocks, into the rapid stream, and perished in a vain attempt to aid those they loved more than life.

† I have been informed of this fact by officers to whom these expressions were used.

but fatal victory. At the close of this affair they saw a jemadar (native lieutenant) retiring towards the river, pursued by five or six men. He held the standard of his battalion in one hand, and a sword, with which he defended himself, in the other. When arrived at the river he seemed to have attained his object of saving the colours of his corps, and, springing with them into the current, sunk to rise no more.

There have been few officers who better understood the character of soldiers than the late Lord Lake; he had early discovered that of the Bengal sepoy; he attended to their prejudices, flattered their pride, and praised their valour. They repaid his consideration of them with gratitude and affection, and during the whole of the late Mahratta war* their zeal and devotion to the public service was increased by the regard and attachment which they entertained for the Commander-in-chief. Sufficient instances of this are recorded by Captain Williams. There is none, however, more remarkable than the conduct he pursued towards the shattered corps of Colonel Monson's detachment. He formed them into a reserve, and promised them every opportunity of signalizing themselves. No confidence was ever better repaid, and throughout the service that ensued these corps were uniformly distinguished.

The conduct of the 2d battalion of the 12th regiment may be taken as an example of the spirit that animated the whole. This corps, which has been before noticed under its first name of "Gillis," or the Lal pultan, had behaved with uncommon valour at the battle of Laswarree, where it had 100 men and three officers killed and wounded. It was associated on that occasion with his Majesty's 76th regiment, and shared in the praise which Lord Lake bestowed on "the handful of heroes," as he emphatically termed those whose great exertions decided that battle. It was with Colonel Monson's detachment, and maintained its high character in the disastrous retreat we have alluded to. But all its former deeds were outdone at the siege of Bhurtpore. It appears by a printed memorial which we have before us of its European commanding officer that on the first storm of that fortress this corps lost 150 officers and men killed and wounded, and did not retire till the last. On the third attack, when joined with the 1st battalion of the same regiment, (amounting together to 800 men,) it became the admiration of the whole army. The 2d battalion of the 12th regiment on this occasion not only drove back the enemy who had made a sally to attack the trenches, but effected a lodgment, and planted its colours on one of the bastions of the fort. Unfortunately this work was cut off by a deep ditch from the body of the place; and after the attack had failed the 12th regiment was ordered to retire, which they did reluctantly; with the loss of seven officers and 350 men, killed and wounded, being nearly half the number they had carried into action.

Examples of equal valour might be given from many other corps during the war, and instances of individual valour might be noticed in any number but more is not necessary to satisfy the reader of the just title of the Bengal sepoy to the high name which they have acquired; and from late accounts†

* The war of 1803-4.

† I know of few instances where more has been required from the zeal and valour of the native troops than in the late campaign against the Goorkhas. The great successes of Major-general Sir D. Ochterlony could only have been gained by the patience and courage of the troops being equal to the skill and decision of their commander

we perceive that their conduct throughout the arduous service in Nepal, where they had at once to contend with the natural obstacles of an almost impracticable country, and the desperate valour of a race of hardy mountaineers, has been worthy of their former fame. Since the conclusion of this war a small body of these troops has had an opportunity of exhibiting, in a most distinguished manner, that firmness, courage, and attachment to their officers and the service, which have always characterized this army. We allude to a recent occurrence of a most serious sedition at Bareilly the capital of Rohilchund. The introduction of a police-tax, intended to provide means for the security of life, and property, had spread alarm and discontent among an ignorant population, whose prejudices in favour of their ancient usages are so strong as to lead them to regard any innovation (whatever be its character) with jealousy and indignation. Acting under these feelings, the Rohillas of Bareilly who are alike remarkable for their strength of body and individual courage, rose in a body to oppose the orders of the civil magistrate. They were influenced by a priest upwards of ninety years of age, who dug his grave, to indicate his resolution to conquer or die, and at whose order the green flag, or standard of Mahomet, was hoisted, they now proclaimed themselves determined to effect the downfall of their European tyrant. What rendered this revolt more alarming, was the knowledge that the cause of the insurgents was popular over the whole country, and a belief that their success would be the signal for a general rise in the neighbouring provinces. As the force that could be collected to suppress the revolt was a detachment of between three and four hundred sepoy of the 27th regiment of native infantry, and part of a provincial battalion under Captain Boscawen, with two guns, and a party of about 400 Rohilla horse belonging to a corps lately embodied under Captain Cunningham. The former received, with undiminished courage, the charge of an undisciplined, but furious and desperate rabble, who, encouraged by their numbers which exceeded 12,000 armed men, persevered in the attack till more than 2000 of them were slain and the latter, though of the same class and religion as the insurgents, and probably related to many of them by the ties of kindred, proved equally firm as the sepoys to their duty. When their priest advanced and invoked them to join their natural friends, and to range themselves under the standard of their faith, only one man was found wanting in fidelity; he deserted and was soon afterwards slain by his former comrades, who continued throughout to display prompt obedience, exemplary courage, and unshaken attachment to the officers by whom they were led.

However slight this affair may seem, I do not recollect any occurrence in the history of British India more calculated to show the dependence of our power on the fidelity of our native troops and the absolute necessity of adopting every measure by which their attachment can be confirmed and approved.

It is by treating the sepoys with kindness and consideration, by stimulating their pride, and by attending in the most minute manner, to their feelings

and in the spirit and able operations of Colonel Nicolls, Quartermaster-general of his majesty's troops in India, against Almorah where 800 sepoys, aided by a few irregulars were led against 3070 gallant mountaineers, who occupied that mountain fortress, and the heights by which it was surrounded. Victory could only have been obtained by every sepoy partaking of the ardour and resolution of his gallant leader. Of their conduct on this occasion we may indeed judge by the admiration with which it inspired Colonel Nicolls, who gave vent to his feelings in an order that does honour to his character. Speaking of an attack made by a party of sepoy grenadiers, he observed, "This was an exploit of which the best troops of any age might justly have been proud."

and prejudices, that we can command, as has been well observed, "their lives through the medium of their affections;" and so long as we can by these means, preserve the fidelity and attachment of that proportion of the population of our immense possessions in the East, which we aim to defend the remainder, our empire may be considered as secure.

JOHN MALCOLM.

P. S.—Subsequent to the date of this account the native arms of India have fully maintained the high reputation they had achieved.

During the campaigns against the Mahrattas and Pindaries, in 1817 and 1818, and that in the territories of Ava, and the siege of Bhurtpore, 1826, these troops evinced all the military qualities of zeal, attachment to their colours, and gallantry, for which they had been so long distinguished.

JOHN MALCOLM.

Military Correspondence.

FIELD BATTERIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DELHI GAZETTE.

Sir,—It may prove interesting to some of your readers to see the distribution of the Field Guns with the Army under the Bengal Presidency.

There are *twenty-four* Light Field Batteries—*twelve* of Horse and *twelve* of Foot Artillery—and each Battery consists of *two* 24 pounder howitzers and *four* 9 pounder Guns—They are stationed as follows—viz.

	Horse Artillery No. of Guns drawn by Horses.	Foot Artillery No. of Guns drawn by Bullocks.
At Dum-Dum,	6	12
Dinapore,	"	6
Benares,	"	6
Cawnpore,	12	6
Saugor,	"	6
Mhow,	6	6
Neemuch,	6	6
Nusseerabad,	"	6
Agra,	"	6
Muttra,	6	"
Delhi,	"	6
Meerut,	24	"
Kurnaul,	6	6
Loodiannah,	6	"
	72	72
Total of Field Guns,	144	

* The whole of these Guns are supposed to be kept in a state of the most perfect readiness for actual Service, but although the Guns are all of the finest description, possessing wonderful precision of fire, and are in point of stores, efficiently and beautifully equipped, yet the 72 Guns of the Foot Artillery with their present Bullock draught are really worse than useless—They could never be brought into action and it would require an Army of Men to guard them!

Bullocks may answer and perform well upon a *smooth* and *hard* Parade, but upon the common loose soils of this country they cannot manœuvre, I speak it from experience, at a rate exceeding one mile per hour, and no Commander-in-Chief would for a moment think of hampering an Army with Bullock Artillery.

Government should give Horses in lieu of Bullocks to the Foot Artillery Guns or at once increase the Horse Artillery.

Our present Commandant of Artillery Brigadier Browne, Sir Edward Paget, Sir Samford Whittingham and in fact all Officers of sense or experience strongly condemn the Bullock draught—and Colonel Pennington of Artillery, Colonel Weston the late Adjutant General of the Army and others, have registered strong opinions against it before the Military Committee of the House of Commons.

Taking then the *efficient* Guns at *seventy-two* we should have one Gun to every 1340 Men of the Bengal Army calculating only our present Regiments at War strength—or supposing the Government could be induced to render our Foot Artillery Batteries efficient by giving Horses we should still have but one Gun to every 670 Men—by much too small a proportion,—one Gun to every 500 Men is the mark.—

The *matériel* of the French Army is divided into 139 Batteries of *six* Guns each—giving a total of 834 Field Guns to the Army or one Gun to every 505 Men—exclusive of 625 Guns belonging to the National Guard.

OBSERVATEUR.

Military Intelligence.

DR. MUSTON.—Dr. Muston, has been posted to Dinapore as Superintending Surgeon. Dr. Muston, it is well known, gave up promotion as Surgeon in order to hold a lucrative appointment. Such an act has hitherto been determined to be final, and the Governor General had the power to restore him to his former standing in the service. An attempt indeed of this kind was tried in the case of Dr. Turnbull, whose family possessed parliamentary interest, important to Lord Alinto, the Governor General of India. After having given up rank for the purpose of holding the civil station of Mirzapore, then a desirable place for the Cotton trade, and having lost all his property, he applied to Lord Alinto to restore him to the military branch of the service. This was accordingly done, but the Medical Service had greater weight in those days, and when they memorialized the Court of Directors, the order was disproved, and Dr. Turnbull returned to his trade at Mirzapore. Although we have but little faith in memorials generally, we hope that the changes going forward at home, will now pave the way for enabling the servants of the Company to send home appeals with the assurance, that if their complaints are just, their petitions for redress of grievances will meet with immediate attention from the present constituted authorities.

MAURITIUS VOLUNTEERS.—A private letter from Port Louis of the 9th July, besides confirming the intelligence of the entire disbandment of the volunteer Corps and the intended removal of their Chief from the island, adds that the Admiral on the station has seized a French bark with arms on board, and it is generally thought that she will be condemned. — *India Gaz.*, Aug. 8.

BENGAL MEDICAL RETIRING FUND.—A meeting of the Committee was held on Wednesday, the 21st August, for the purpose of taking into consideration the mode to be adopted for meeting the current expenses of the Fund, which have been heretofore incurred, and which will in future be required in conducting the duties of the Secretary's office, when the following propositions were submitted and severally carried :

1.—“That as the Committee of Management cannot consider the Funds of the Institution to be under their controul until the Fund itself be established, which it cannot be said to be until the pleasure of the Court of Directors is made known, while certain indispensable expenses in the Secretary's establishment must be defrayed, it is expedient, that the accumulating interest on the Funds now collected, and to be collected, be considered applicable meanwhile for this purpose, and that the Secretary be accordingly empowered to draw the sum of Sa. Rs. 40 per mensem, that sum being adequate to meet all the expenses of his establishment.”

2.—“That the expenses already incurred by the Secretary, amounting to Sa. Rs. 367-9, be defrayed out of the interest of the Funds in the hands of the Government Agent, provided a sufficient sum shall have accumulated to meet the amount.”

The letters received since the last Meeting, of the Management, were then submitted to the Meeting, and on the subject of one from Mr. Surgeon Hutchinson under date the 16th August, in reply to one of the 15th, calling upon him to pay his donation and subscription to the Fund, to the period of his succession as a subscriber, it was resolved :

3.—“That with reference to Mr. Hutchinson's communication to the Committee offering to refer the claim of the Fund upon him for his subscriptions up to the date of his ceasing to be a Member to legal Arbitration, the Committee of Management are of opinion that there is no claim on Mr. Hutchinson in point of law, but a very clear one in point of honour, which, if he will not recognise, the Members of the General Management have no inclination to hold any further Correspondence with him on the subject.”

4.—It was proposed by Mr. Framley, seconded by Mr. Spens, and unanimously carried.

“That the secretary be requested to furnish a written statement containing an ample detail of all matters of interest connected with the Fund, to be read by him at each Quarterly General Meeting, for the benefit of the subscribers at large.”

AFFAIRS OF PADANG.—Letters from Batavia of the 5th of August mention, that the Dutch Government is sending a

the troops that can be spared to Padang, to meet the pressing exigencies occasioned by the hostility of the Padjies. The *Hercules*, an American vessel, had already made one voyage to Padang with troops, and was about to make a second, which will probably be followed by a third, as the vessel is chartered for a longer period than would be necessary, unless repeated voyages were contemplated. The members of the Council of Government were to proceed to Padang as passengers on the *Hercules*, and the Governor himself in a frigate; circumstances which imply that Dutch affairs at Padang are in a critical position. It was considered probable, that the Governor and the President or the Maatschappij who intend soon to return to Europe, would proceed on the *Hercules*, preferring an American ship on account of the unsettled state of affairs in Europe. It appears that the *Hercules*, is not the only vessel that had been employed for the conveyance of troops to Padang, several others having been chartered for the same service.—*India Gaz.* Sept. 3.

FORTIFYING THE MAURITIUS.—The English papers, state that the Mauritius is to be further fortified by the erection of a citadel on the Petite Montagne. This of course is to guard as much against internal as external enemies. The cost is estimated at 32,000*l*.

MADRAS MILITARY FUND.—It was some time since announced in the Madras papers, that the plan for a Military Retiring Fund which was sent in circulation, had been rejected by the Army—and the assertion was never contradicted. We now find in the *Herald* a statement, shewing that, out of 612 votes, there are only 182 noes to 794 ayes: which may be taken as proving a sufficiently general assent to the proposition, to cause it to be adopted, as far as Madras is concerned. But it will be still inoperative even there, unless the same plan be accepted at the other Presidencies.

CONDUCT OF THE TROOPS IN VIZAGAPATAM.—We feel great satisfaction in drawing attention to the subjoined extracts from the *Fort St. George Gazette*, conveying in the most laudatory terms the high sense entertained by Government of the conduct of the officers and men under the command of Colonel Muriel in the Vizagapatam district, and of Major Baxter in Kinedy, while engaged in the harassing and toilsome duty they have had to perform in quelling the disturbances in those parts. It has been often remarked that there are few opportunities in service

in the Indian Army of acquiring that glory, the soldier's great ambition, resulting from presence in a well foughten field; but in the duties that our troops here are occasionally called upon to perform there are to be found as general instances of bold courage, unshrinking firmness, indifference to hardships and privations, as have distinguished the best of Britain's sons, when facing their most potent foes. Without fear of contradiction we allude, for recent examples, to the Malacca campaign and now to that in Vizagapatam and Kinedy. The former brought forth energies and displayed instances of toil, privation, and individual courage, seldom excelled though passed by unnoticed. In the last harassing warfare it would require a knowledge of the country to be able duly to appreciate the fatigues, dangers and difficulties its partizans must have endured to bring out the present successful issue; and well does the gallant force employed deserve the tribute now justly paid to their unweary and courageous exertions.

Fort St. George, Aug. 23, 1833.
G. O BY GOVERNMENT.

The Brigadier General Commanding the Northern Division of the Army having reported that in consequence of the restoration of tranquillity throughout the Vizagapatam district, he has recalled the troops that have been so actively employed on field service for many months, the Right Honourable the Governor in Council deems this a fit opportunity to express the high sense he entertains of the exertions of Lieutenant-Colonel Muriel and the officers and men of the detachments under his command. He has observed with great approbation the zeal, energy, and activity evinced by that officer, and by all ranks under him, throughout a harassing service in which they had to contend against many difficulties that nothing but the most determined perseverance could have enabled them to overcome.

The Right Honourable the Governor in Council desires also on this occasion to record his approbation of the services of Major Baxter and the officers and men of the detachments employed under him in Kinedy, and his satisfaction at the success of their operations during the short time the season admitted of their being in the field.

To mark his approbation of their conduct and services, the Right Honourable the Governor in Council is pleased to grant a gratuity equal to one month's pay and allowances to the European officers, and one month's pay to the Native officers and sepoys of the detachments employed under Lieutenant-Colonel Muriel, and gratuity equal to one month's full batta

to the officers and men of all ranks in the detachments employed under Major Baxter. The gratuities will be paid upon abstracts signed by the respective commanding officers and countersigned by the Brigadier General commanding the division.

The thanks of Government are eminent-ly due to Brigadier General Taylor for the ability with which he has directed the operations of the troops, and provided for every exigency of the service in which they have been employed.

The Right Honourable the Governor in Council very highly appreciates the judgment and discretion which have marked all the proceedings of Brigadier General Taylor in the performance of the weighty duties which have fallen upon him in the administration of martial law in the district of Vizagapatam; and the cordial alacrity and energy with which he has co-operated with the Civil Commissioner, Mr. Russel, for the restoration of order and tranquillity in that district and Ganjam.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Bowes, Commanding Vizianagrum, the thanks of Government are due for his promptitude and activity in forwarding the services of the troops in the field.

By order of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council.

H. CHAMIER, *Chief Secy. to Govt.*

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council under date the 23d August, 1853.

The Right Honourable the Governor in Council cannot let this opportunity pass without recording an acknowledgment of the meritorious services of Mr. G. E. Russel, Commissioner in Ganjam and Vizagapatam. The whole conduct of Mr. Russel in the discharge of the highly important trust confided to him has met with the unqualified approbation of Government. The intelligence, judgment, and prudence with which his measures have been planned, the ability, energy, and firmness with which they have been prosecuted, and the success with which they have been carried into effect reflect the highest credit upon him. He has vindicated the authority and upheld the character of Government in a manner which has already produced the most salutary results and caused an impression which, it is hoped, will be of permanent efficacy in restraining excesses such as those by which this part of the country has been lately disturbed, and preserving peace and order.

A true extract,
D ELLIOTT, *Offg. Secy. to Govt.*
Madras Herald, Aug. 26.]

TRIAL FOR MURDER—Gaussee Ram, a private in the 6th Regiment N. I. was tried on the 19th July for the murder of Charles Chitts, the European Constable who fell in the encounter with a gang of robbers on the 23d of May. The Jury, after half an hour's recess, brought in a verdict of *Guilty*, and Gaussee Ram was sentenced to be executed. In passing sentence, Sir John Awdry commented strongly on the fact that men paid like the prisoner *for the protection of the inhabitants*, should, instead of performing this duty, make it a practice to prey upon them and keep the whole settlement in a state of nightly alarm by their depredations.—*Bombay Gazette.*

BOMBAY ARMY RELIEF.—The following changes, we understand, are to take place in the Army this year:—

H. M. 3d, or Queen's Royals, are to go from Bombay to Poona.

H. M. 40th, from Poona to Bombay.

1st Regiment L. Cav., from Shalapoore to Rajkote and Hursole.

2d Ditto, from Deesa to Shalapoore.

3d Ditto, from Rajkote and Hursole to Deesa.

4th Regiment N. I., from Bombay to Hursole.

8th Ditto, from Ahmednuggur to Kulladghee.

21st Ditto, from Deesa to Bombay.

22d Regiment N. I. from Ahmedabad to Ahmednuggur.

25th Ditto, from Hursole to Deesa.

26th Ditto, from Kulladghee to Ahmedabad.

[*Bombay Courier, Aug. 17.*]

MURDER—A trooper of the 4th Dragoons named William Messer, having been tried and found guilty of the murder of a mussaul he was executed on the 15th July. The *Bombay Gazette* gives the following account of his execution and confession: "William Messer underwent his sentence in presence of a large concourse of spectators. It appears that after being taken back to gaol from the Court, he determined to take the hint thrown out in the Judge's charge, and to declare even at that late hour, that he had indeed shot Lalla, but that he had done so *accidentally*. He accordingly made this declaration to the Rev. Mr. Davis and repeated it to the Sheriff and one or two other gentlemen and left upon their minds so strong an impression of his innocence that they proceeded to the house of the Judge in hopes of procuring him a respite. Sir John Awdry, we understand, delivered a written order to the Sheriff, empowering him to suspend the execution, if the prisoner could name any witness either in Bombay or in the Deccan, to

whom he had ever given the same account of the transaction from the moment of the catastrophe up to the hour of trial. On returning to the goal, they communicated to the prisoner the test of truth on which his life or death depended. On hearing it his countenance fell, he had never given the account to any one before his trial, and could of course name no witness. The Clergyman upon this urged him, for the sake of his immortal hopes, to confess the whole truth, but he continued obstinately to deny his having done the deed intentionally, talked of petitioning the Government, and seemed to cherish the hopes of life up to the very moment when he was left to himself. At about half past twelve on the night, of 14th July, the Sheriff and other gentlemen left him, and then indeed his hopes and his spirits began to fail him. He endeavoured to sleep, but started up frequently, and appeared appalled by the violence of the elements which burst forth in a tremendous gale of wind and rain about that hour. He was up at an early hour on the morning of the 15th, and drank a cup of tea. He prayed very fervently with Mr Davies, frequently calling out "Oh! Lord, have mercy on my soul." While he was being pinioned he grew excessively agitated, the tears running down his cheeks, and his knees appearing to faint beneath him. Wine and water was offered him by Mr Geddes the Marshall, who seemed to be almost as much affected as himself, but he declined it by shaking his head mournfully. At length he was supported up to the scaffold by two sepoys: on reaching the fatal spot, he opened his eyes for the last time on the vast multitude who were assembled in front of the goal, and then shut them with a firm and resolute compression. In a second the cap was drawn over his face—the bolt jared—the drop fell—and after a violent struggle of the chest and extremities, which lasted nearly twelve minutes, William Messer was no more. The last words he uttered were a prayer for his soul and a declaration of his innocence. Such were the last moments of this young man—he is now no more, and we not only feel ourselves at liberty, but after the unpleasant doubts of his guilt which his dying declaration is calculated to leave, we feel it a duty to publish the following fact:—Four days before his trial, and seven before his death, William Messer *confessed his guilt—confessed that he had deliberately shot Lalla*, and that to ensure the destruction of his victim, he had rested the barrel of the gun on the sill of the godown window. The following was the motive which he alleged for the crime. He had maintained an intrigue with Ser-

jeants Morris's woman Luxme, and while the Serjeant was in attendance upon the Officer's mess from seven o'clock every evening, he was accustomed to visit his room, and under pretence of cleaning his appointments, carried on his amour with his female. Serjeant Morris suspecting the fact set Lalla the mussaul to watch them. On the night in question Messer detected him watching him, resolved on his destruction, and affected it, by deliberately firing in upon him through the godown window. The woman who was the cause of the crime possesses no inconsiderable personal attractions, and we deem it a very doubtful matter how far she may or may not have acted the part of Millwood in this tragedy. The above confession was made, in confidence, to a person whose aid was important in conducting this case, and would never have transpired, had not an all-seeing Providence directed the issue against him, affording one more example, that innocent blood cries to heaven for vengeance, and that sooner or later justice will overtake the murderer. The obstinacy with which Messer asserted his innocence to that last we attribute entirely to the innate clinging to life, which was so natural in his case. Hopes had been held out to him of a reprieve, if he could produce a proof of his having before his trial told the story of his having shot Lalla *accidentally*, and he might have entertained an indistinct hope, that if he persisted in the same story in the very hour of execution, it might be received as proof of its truth, and some secret power of pardon might still be in store to snatch him from his fate.

Riot.—In consequence of an alarming rise in the price of grain at Bombay, an attack, with the view to plunder, was made on the shops of the Rice Sellers and Shroffs in the bazaar of that town, the principal persons concerned in which were said by the public papers to be the sepoys of the 6th Regt. N. I. Major Little and Capt. Farrell of the corps, however, who respectively commanded detachments, denied the charge altogether on behalf of their men, and the examinations at the Police bore them out on their defence. We believe the fact to have been that there were some disturbances in the town, in which the sepoys were concerned, but the cause was not as advanced, a desire for plunder. There is an unconquerable hostility between the Purdasees, who are fine martial race of people, and the Parsees and Banians, who pursue the meaner occupations of buying and selling; and this has manifested itself in the same way on every occasion of a regiment abounding with

Purdasees being stationed at the Bombay Presidency. The part taken by Government in protecting the grain merchants, during the late advances in price arising from scarcity, formed an excellent plea for the cry which the Purdasee rulers instantly raised, and the result was the removal of the corps.—*Ed. U. S. J.*

The following officers have been appointed to the Persian Army, and proceeded early in August to Bombay,

preparatory to their departure from Persia:—

Major Passmore, with the rank of Colonel.

Captain J. Sheil, of the 35th Regiment Native Infantry, to be seconded in command

Lieut. G. D. Todd, of the Horse Artillery.

Lieut. J. Laughton, of Engineers.
Assistant Surgeon S. M. Griffith.

GENERAL ORDERS BY GOVERNMENT.

PROMOTIONS.

2d August, 1833. The undermentioned officers promoted to the rank of Captain by Brevet, from the dates expressed opposite to their names:—

7th Regt. N. I., Lieut. A. Spens, 15th July 1833.

6th Regt. N. I., Lieut. R. D. White, 18th July 1833.

70th Regt. N. I., Lieut. the Hon'ble P. Sinclair, 18th July 1833.

Artillery Regiment, 1st Lieut. R. G. Roberts, 20th July 1833.

Medical Department. Assistant Surgeon William Mitchelson to be Surgeon, from the 23d July 1833, vice J. Browne deceased.

8th August, 1833.—Infantry.—Lieut. Col. W. C. Baddeley, C. B., to be Colonel, vice T. Shuldham deceased, with rank from the 14th June, 1833, vice E. P. Wilson deceased.

Major Henry Hall to be Lieut. Col., from the 14th June, 1833, vice W. C. Baddeley, C. B., promoted.

Regiment of Artillery. 2d Lieut. G. Iarkins to be 1st Lieut., from the 20th of July, 1833, vice W. T. Garrett deceased.

3d Regt. N. I.—Captain Christopher D'Oyley Aplin to be Major, Lieutenant George Irvine to be Captain of a Company, and Ensign James Macadam to be Lieutenant, all from the 14th June 1833, in succession to H. Hall promoted.

Infantry.—Colonel W. H. Wood, to rank from 14th March, 1833, vice Col. T. Shuldham, deceased.

Ditto.—Lieutenant-Colonel B. Sissmore, to rank from 14th March, 1833, vice Colonel T. Shuldham, deceased.

1st Native Infantry.—Major P. Tenson, to rank from 14th March, 1833, vice Colonel T. Shuldham, deceased.

Ditto.—Captain J. Corfield, to rank from 14th March, 1833, vice Colonel T. Shuldham, deceased.

Infantry.—Lieutenant—Colonel T. A. Coöbe, to rank from 20th April, 1833,

vice Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. Seyer, deceased.

18th Native Infantry.—Major R. Ross, to rank from 20th April, 1833, vice Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. Seyer, deceased.

Ditto.—Captain C. G. de, to rank from 20th April, 1833, vice Lieut.—Colonel R. T. Seyer, Deceased.

Ditto.—Lieutenant W. Hore, to rank from 20th April, 1833, vice Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. Seyer, deceased.

3d August 1833.—Infantry.—Major T. Maddock to be Lieut. Col. vice R. L. Dickson retired, with rank from the 14th June, 1833, vice W. C. Baddeley, C. B. promoted.

10th Regt. N. I.—Captain D. Pringle to be Major, Lieutenant W. Foley to be Captain of a Company, and Ensign Frederick Samler to be Lieutenant, from the 14th June 1833, in succession to T. Maddock promoted.

25th Regt. N. I.—Ensign J. D. Kennedy to be Lieutenant, from the 2d of July 1833, vice C. J. C. Collins deceased.

37th Regt. N. I.—Ensign William Clinton Peter Collison to be Lieutenant, from the 22d August 1833, vice M. T. White transferred to the Invalid Establishment.

Medical Department.—Assist. Surg. W. Glass, M. D. to be Surgeon, vice T. Henderson retired, with rank from the 23d July 1833, vice J. Browne deceased.

Alteration of Rank.—1st N. Infantry.—Lt. Col. B. Sissmore, Major P. Talon, and Captain J. Corfield; to rank from 4th Feb. 1833, vice Lieut. Col. R. L. Dickson, retired.

8th N. Infantry.—Lt.-Col. T. A. Cobbe, Major R. Ross, Captain C. Gale, and Lieut. W. Hore; to rank from 14th March 1833, vice Lt.-Col. W. H. Wood, promoted.

33d N. Infantry.—Lt.-Col. H. Hall, Major C. D'O. Aplin, Captain G. Irvine, and Lieut. Macadam; to rank from 21th April 1833, vice Lt.-Col. R. T. Seyer, deceased.

Medical Department.—Alteration of Rank of Surgeons.—T. B. Barker, to rank from 4th June 1829, vice T. Henderson, ret.; F. S. Matthews, ditto 12th June 1829, vice J. J. Forbes, M. D. dec.; W. S. Charters, M. D. ditto 28th July 1829, vice S. Durham, ret.; K. Macqueen, ditto 7th August 1829, vice T. Hayley, invalided; J. Coulter, ditto 19th August 1829, vice R. Williams, ret.; W. Cameron, ditto 16th Sept. 1829, vice T. Yeld, deceased; J. Clark, ditto 27th Sept. 1829, vice A. Stratton, deceased; J. Hutchinson, ditto 1st Nov. 1829, vice J. Grierson, ret.; W. Montgomerie, 9th Dec. 1829, vice R. Patterson, M. D. dec.; C. W. Welchman, (dec.) ditto 4th March 1830, vice C. Ray, deceased; J. Griffiths, ditto 14th May 1830, vice J. Fallowfield, ret.—J. M. Todd, ditto 11th May 1830, vice J. Castell, ret.—G. G. McPherson, ditto 24th July 1830, vice J. Smith, dec.—J. F. Royle, ditto 29th July 1830, vice J. Adam, M. D., dec.—H. Guthrie, M. D., ditto 15th Aug. 1830, vice P. Mathew dec.—J. Graham, M. D., ditto 11th Sept. 1830, vice C. E. Everest, ret.—J. Forsyth, ditto 18th Nov. 1830, vice P. Bieton dec.—J. Johnstone, M. D., ditto 21st January 1831, vice A. Ogilvy, ret.—T. S. Child, ditto 18th April 1831, vice J. Woolley, dec.—J. Morton, ditto 7th May 1831, vice C. Hunter, dec.—M. Nisbet, M. D., ditto 14th June 1831, vice W. Leslie, M. D., dec.—G. Waddell, M. D., ditto 16th June 1831, vice D. Todd, ret.—A. R. Jackson M. D., ditto 18th June 1831, vice W. Russell, M. D., ret.—A. Davidson, M. D., ditto 13th July 1831, vice D. Ramsay, dec.—C. M. Macleod (invalided) ditto 14th Nov. 1831, vice E. Muston, ret.—J. S. Toke, ditto 27th Nov. 1831, vice C. S. Heynes, dec.—T. E. Dempster, ditto 2d March 1832, vice R. Limond, dec.—W. Hamilton, M. D., ditto 9th April 1832, vice J. Manly, ret.—R. M. M. Thomson, ditto 23d April 1832, vice C. M. Macleod, invalided.—T. Drever, M. D., ditto 27th May 1832, vice J. M. Macra, dec.—A. Pringle, M. D., ditto 14th June 1832, vice A. Dickson, ret.—W. Grime, ditto 3d July 1832, vice C. W. Welchman, dec.—B. Bell, ditto 6th July 1832, vice A. Wardrop dec.—W. Mitchelson, ditto 27th December 1832, vice J. A. D. Watson, dec.

ASSIGNMENT OF RANKS.

Regiment of Artillery.—2d Lieutenant Thomas Gray, 25th July 1833, in succession to 1st Lieutenant W. T. Garrett deceased. Ditto Lieutenant William Timbrell, 29th July 1833, in succession to Captain T. Marshall deceased.

5th September, 1833.—PROMOTION.—1st *Regt. N. I.*—Ensign F. Raleigh to be

Lieutenant, from the 30th August, 1833, vice J. V. Law transferred to the Pensioners Establishment.

7th *Regt. N. I.*—Ensign S. C. Starkey to be Lieutenant, from the 1st Sept. 1833, vice A. Arabian deceased.

Regimental Rank is assigned to the undermentioned Officer, brought on the effective strength of the Infantry on this Establishment, from the date expressed opposite to his name:

Infantry.—Ensign J. H. Fergusson, 2d August, 1833, in succession to Major General (Colonel) T. Shulldham deceased.

The undermentioned Officer is promoted to the rank of Captain by Brevet from the date expressed opposite to his name:

7th *Regt. N. I.*—Lieutenant Joseph Leverton Revell, 6th August, 1833.

The undermentioned Acting Ensigns are promoted to the rank of Ensign to fill vacancies in the Infantry on this Establishment, from the date expressed opposite to their names:

Infantry.—H. D. Van Hommigh, 2d July, 1833, in succession to Captain J. S. Pitts deceased.

J. C. Phillips, 4th July, 1833, in succession to Lieutenant J. J. Kinlock resigned.

13th September, 1833.—PROMOTION:—65th *Regiment Native Infantry.*—Ensign William Swatman to be Lieutenant, from the 24th August, 1833, vice A. M. Methven, deceased.

Regimental rank is assigned to the undermentioned Officer, brought on the effective strength of the Infantry on this Establishment, from the date expressed opposite to his name:

Infantry.—Ensign Frederick Hill Hawtrej, 8th August 1833, vice Ensign T. W. Home, of the Infantry, resigned.

APPOINTMENTS.

Appointments.—Colonel John Tonks of the Cavalry, to the Command of the Rajpootanah Field Force, with the rank of Brigadier Wilson deceased.

Surgeon David Woodburn to be Garrison Surgeon and Medical Storekeeper at Agia, vice Surgeon Garden appointed a Presidency Surgeon.

22d August, 1833.—Lists of Rank of Cadets of Engineers, Artillery, Cavalry, and Infantry, and of Assistant Surgeons, appointed for the Bengal Presidency.

For the Engineers.—To rank from the 8th December 1831, the day of passing their Public Examination, provided they sail on or before the following dates; viz.

N. C. Macleod, 14th August, 1833.

J. Spens, 26th June, 1833.

W. Jones, 12th August, 1833.

For the Artillery.—To rank from the 14th December 1833, the day of passing their Public Examination, provided they

sail from Gravesend on or before the 14th June 1833.

J. Rogers, *Vansittart*, sailed 2d March 1833.

J. W. Kaye, *Protector*.

H. E. L. Thuillier.

For the Cavalry.—To rank from the date of the sailing of the Ship on which he embarked.

J. H. L. M. Toome, *Castle Huntly*, sailed 27th Feb 1833

For the Infantry.—To rank from the 14th June 1832, after J W Mitchell.

J S. D. Tulloch, *Hooghly*, sailed 2d December 1832.

To rank from the 14th December 1832, the day of passing their Public Examination, provided they sail on or before the 14th June 1833.

R. Robertson.

W. H. Tombs, *Castle Huntly*, sailed 27th February 1833.

T. G. Leith.

G. D. Mercer.

T. C. Birch, *Vansittart*, sailed 2d March 1833.

To rank from the 2th January 1833, the day of his attaining his 16th year

T. T. Tucker.

Assistant Surgeons.—To rank from the date of the sailing of the Ships on which they embarked, and in the following order, viz.

J. G. Vos, M. D., *para. per Thalia*, sailed 18th December 1832.

J. H. W. Waugh, *Hooghly*, sailed 2d December 1832.

D. W. Nash, *Ganges*, sailed 6th December 1832.

J. H. Dallas, M. D., *Duke of York*, sailed 13th January 1833.

Captain Henry Walter Bellew, of the 56th Regiment Native Infantry, to be a Dep. Assist. Quar. Master General, vice Lieut. and Brevet Capt. Fisher, appointed Assist. to the Govr. Genl.'s Agent on the N. E. Frontier.

Mr. N. C. Macleod admitted to the Service, in conformity with his appointment as a Cadet of Engineers and promoted to 2d Lieutenant.—Date of arrival at Fort William 7th August 1833.

The undermentioned Persons appointed Assistant Overseers in the Department of Public Works, on the Salaries allowed for that rank :—

Mr. F. Blunt to the 10th Division.

Mr. J. Mitnish to the 10th Division.

Mr. E. Hughes to the 1st Division.

Appointments in the Medical Department, consequent on the decease of Surgeon John Browne, 3d Member and Officiating 2d Member of the Medical Board.

Superintending Surgeon Joseph Langstaff (now Officiating as 3d Member.) to be 3d Member of the Medical Board from the 3d July.

Surgeon John Marshall (now Officiating as a Superintending Surgeon,) to be Superintending Surgeon on the Establishment, vice Langstaff appointed a Member of the Medical Board.

His Lordship in Council is pleased to sanction an Exchange of Appointments between Assistant Surgeon Henry Chapman, attached to the Civil Station of Bareilly, and Assistant Surgeon W. Rhodes at Cheera Poonjer, subject to all the contingencies to which the Experimental Sanatorium at the latter place is liable.

Serjeant Samuel Webb, of the Town Major's List, admitted to the benefits of the Pension sanctioned by Minutes of Council of the 11th January 1797, and General Orders dated 5th February 1820, subject to the confirmation of the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, with permission to reside and receive his Pension at the Presidency.

30th August, 1833.—The Governor General in Council with the sanction of the Court of Directors appoint Mr. Hercules Skinner to the Military Service of His Highness the Nizam.

Assistant Surgeon John O'Dwyer to the Medical duties of the Civil Station of Chittagong, vice Goodeve.

Surgeon Francis Seymour Matthews to Officiate as Presidency Surgeon, on the departure for Europe of Surgeon Charters, M. D.

Major Honeywood to Officiate as Superintending of the Mysore Princes, during Major Caldwell's absence from the Presidency on duty.

5th September 1833.—APPOINTMENT.—Assistant Surgeon George Forbes, M. D., to the Medical duties of the Civil Station of Hedjellee, vice Menzies about to proceed to Europe.

GENERAL ORDERS BY THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF.

REMOVAL AND POSTINGS.

Head Quarters, Simla 20th July.—Brigadier General J. O'Halloran, C. B., from the 25th to the 30th Regt. N. I.

Colonel W. H. Wood (new promotion,) to the 25th Regt. N. I.

Colonel C. S. Fagan, C. B., from the 61st to the 37th Regt. N. I.

Colonel J. A. P. Macgregor, from the 37th to the 61st Regt. N. I.

Lieut. Col. J. Dun, (on furlough) from the 37th to the 25th Regt. N. I.

Lieut. Col. T. A. Colhe, (new promotion) to the 37th Regt N. I.

22d July 1833. — Lieutenant General G. Prole, (on furlough) from the 46th to the 14th Regt. N. I.

Colonel J. Robertson (new promotion) to the 46th Regt. N. I.

Lieut. Col. W. Kennedy from the 41st to the 43th Regt. N. I.

Lieut. Col. B. Sissmore (new promotion) to the 41st Regt. N. I.

1st August, 1833 — Lieut. Col. J. Caulfield, C. B., (on furlough) from the 4th to the 3d Regt. Regt. L. C.

Lieut. Col. C. P. King (new promotion) to the 4th L. C.

5th August, 1833. — *Regiment of Artillery.* — Lieut. E. D'A. Todd, from the 2d Troop 2d Brigade to the 3d Company 2d Battalion.

Lieut. J. D. *Shakespeare, from the 3d Company 2d Battalion to the 2d Troop 2d Brigade.

10th August, 1833. — *Medical Department.* — Surg. W. Findon, from the 62d to the 39th Regt. N. I.

Surg. J. Atkinson, (on furlough) from the 39th to the 62d Regt. N. I.

Assist. Surg. A. Wilson, from the 39th to the 62d Regt. N. I.

Assist. Surg. J. S. Sullivan, (on furlough) from the 62d to the 39th Regt. N. I.

Assist. Surg. W. Bojie, M. D., (on furlough) from the 3d Local Horse to the 10th Regt. N. I.

Assist. Surg. F. H. Fisher, (on furlough) to the 50th Regt. N. I.

Assist. Surg. A. Henderson (on furlough) to the 41st Regt. N. I.

19th August, 1833. — *Regiment of Artillery.* — Lieut. G. H. Swinley, from the 1st Com. 4th, to the 4th Com. 3d Battalion.

Lieut. H. Rutherford, from the 4th Com. 3d to the 1st Com. 4th Battalion.

20th August, 1833. — *Infantry.* — Ensign W. F. Hammersley, from the 41st to the 60th Regt. N. I. — W. Jennings, from the 54th to the 65th Regt. N. I. — D. S. Beck, from 73d to the 17th N. I. — Ensign J. S. Banks, from the 55th to the 33d Regt. N. I. — The undermentioned Cornet and Ensign posted to the Corps specified opposed to their respective names. — Cornet E. I. Robinson to the 7th Regiment Light Cavalry. — Ensign A. Martin to the 47th N. I. — R. N. Raikes to the 36th N. I. — W. H. L. Bird to the 12th N. I. — W. W. Steer to the 25th N. I. — R. Price to the 65th N. I. — L. T. Forrest to the 40th N. I. — G. J. Brietzke to the 49th N. I. — G. P. Wish to the 60th N. I. — J. T. Harwood to the 68th N. I. — H. T. Combe to the Right Wing European Regiment. — G. Dalton to the 53th N. I. — H. S. Stewart to the 29th N. I.

— A. H. Ross to the 42d N. I. — H. B. Walker to the Left Wing European Regiment. — J. Morrison to the 30th N. I. — J. G. Gaitskell to the 8th N. I. — G. Shairp to the 15th N. I. — M. E. Sherwill to the 2d N. I. — H. Howorth to the 39th N. I. — T. G. St. George to the 17th N. I. — H. Laing to the 27th N. I.

22d August, 1833. — Colonel (Major General) Sir A. Knox, K. C. B., from the 3d to the 7th Regiment Light Cavalry.

Colonel H. Thomson, from the 7th to the 3d Regiment Light Cavalry.

Lieutenant Colonel S. H. Tad, (on furlough) from the 8th to the 73d Regt. N. I.

Lieut. Col. E. Wyatt, from the 27d. to the 8th Regt. N. I.

Major W. Pattle, of the 1st L. C., is directed to join and do duty with the 6th Regt. L. C.

Surgeon D. Renton, from the 32d to the 7th Regt. N. I.

Surgeon W. Mitchelson (new promotion) posted to the 23d Regt. N. I., but to do duty with the Nusseree Battalion, until the 1st of November.

APPOINTMENT.

Head Quarters, Simla, 17th July, 1833.

Major General the Honourable John Ramsay, whose appointment to the Staff in Bengal is notified in General Orders by Government of the 4th instant, is appointed to the command of the Meerut Division of the Army from the 1st proximo.

The Commander-in-Chief cannot allow Major General Sir Sanford Whittingham to quit the Staff of the Army in India without thus publicly expressing his regret at losing the valuable aid and assistance of so able, zealous, and meritorious a coadjutor, and an Officer who has invariably given him such support in the discharge of his duties as Commander-in-Chief.

16th July, 1813. — *Appointments.* — 61st Regt. N. I. — Lieutenant P. P. Turner to be Adjutant, vice Cumine promoted.

Ensign J. C. James to be Interpreter and Quarter Master vice Turner appointed Adjutant.

23d July, 1833. — The appointment of Lieutenant (then Ensign) Paterson, of the 50th Regt. N. I., on the Madras Establishment, to be Aide-de-Camp to Brigadier General Smith, as notified in G. O. of the 27th December 1833, is to have effect from the 10th of that month, the date on which he joined the Brigadier General.

29th July, 1833. — A Regimental Order of the 20th instant, appointing Ensign G. M. Hill to officiate as Inter. and Quarter Master to the 17th N. I. confirmed.

30th July, 1833.—*57th Regiment Native Infantry.*—Lieutenant L. Howe to be Adjutant, vice Smith, who has been permitted to resign the appointment.

31st July, 1833.—Sub Conductor Alexander Bethune re-posted to the Allahabad Magazine.

2d August, 1833.—The Cawnpore Division Order appointing Assistant Surgeon J. G. Vos, M. D., to the Medical charge of the Left Wing 67th Regt. N. I. at Bandah, confirmed as a temporary arrangement.

Appointment—17th Regt N. I.—Ensign G. M. Hill to be Interpreter and Quarter Master, vice Wood promoted.

9th August, 1833.—Sergeant Samuel Steele, of the Saugor Magazine, appointed an Assistant Overseer in the Department of Public Works, vice Williams recommended to his Corps.

16th August, 1833.—*40th Regt. N. I.*—Lieutenant H. C. Reynolds to be Adjutant, vice Hannay who resigns the appointment.

62d Regt. N. I.—Ensign W. Bridge to be Adjutant, vice Smith, who resigns the appointment.

Apothecary J. Purkis removed from the Hospital of His Majesty's 3d Regiment of Foot, and posted to that of the European Regiment at Dinapore.

19th August, 1833.—Assistant Surgeon D. Russel, M. D., appointed to the 10th Regiment Light Cavalry.

27th August, 1833.—Corporal Edward Donnelly, of the European Regiment, promoted to be Sergeant, transferred to the Town Major's List, and appointed to the Commissariat Department, in the room of McMullin, recommended to the Artillery Regiment.

28th August, 1833.—Assistant Surgeon S. Winbolt, at present doing duty with His Majesty's 3d Regiment, appointed to the Medical charge of the Left Wing 67th N. I., at Bandah.

29th August, 1833.—Quarter Master Sergeant William Kirkland, of the 64th Native Infantry, appointed Sergeant Major to that Corps, vice Creighton.

Sergeant J. Brown, of the 2d Company 1st Battalion of Artillery, transferred to the Town Major's List, and appointed Quarter Master Sergeant to the 64th Regt. N. I. vice Kirland.

Sergeant M. Foster, of the European Regiment, transferred to the Town Major's List, and appointed Quarter Master Sergeant to the 35th N. I., vice Tagg, and directed to join at Jumaulpore.

FURLOUGH.

Lieutenant George Urquhart, of the 65th Regt. N. I., permitted to proceed to Europe on furlough, on account of his private affairs.

Captain W. P. Welland, of the 55th Regiment Native Infantry, permitted to proceed to Singapore and eventually to Van Dieman's Land, on Medical Certificate, for eighteen months.

The undermentioned Officers permitted to proceed to Europe on furlough, on Medical Certificate:

Major Richard Benson, of the 11th Regt. N. I., and Military Secretary and Aide-de-Camp to the Governor General.

Lieutenant Thomas Edwards, of the Regiment of Artillery.

Surgeon William Seton Charters, M. D., Officiating Presidency Surgeon, is permitted to proceed to Europe, on furlough, on Medical Certificate.

Lieutenant A. G. F. J. Younghsband, of the 35th Regt. N. I., is permitted to proceed to Van Dieman's Land, via the Mauritius on Medical Certificate, for eighteen months.

Lieutenant Daniel Ramfield, of the 35th Regt. N. I., permitted to proceed to Europe on furlough, on Medical Certificate.

Assistant Surgeon George Smith, of the Medical Department, permitted to proceed to Van Dieman's Land, via the straits of Malacca, on Medical Certificate for two years.

Lieutenant John Brackon, of the 29th Regiment Native Infantry, permitted to proceed to Europe on furlough, on Medical Certificate.

COURTS MARTIAU.

At a European Gen. C. M. assembled at Dinapore on the 21st of January 1834, Private Rubin Warner, of the Eur. Regt. was arraigned for having, at Dinapore, on the 15th of Dec. 1832, assaulted with a Bludgeon, and inflicted several wounds on the head of a native named Benuck, of which wounds the said Benuck, died soon after the same night.

The Court found the prisoner guilty of the charge preferred against him and sentenced him to suffer death, by being hanged. The Commander-in-Chief approved the sentence but commuted it into transportation.

At a Native Gen. C. M. re-assembled at Lucknow on the 13th of June 1833, Mirja Jhan Beg, Khidmutgar, Camp-follower, was arraigned on the charge of having, in the Military Cantonments of Lucknow, on the 10th April 1833, unlawfully assaulted, and wilfully and maliciously inflicted several wounds, with a sword, on the person of Budgeran, a native woman.

The Court found the prisoner guilty and sentenced him to suffer imprisonment with hard labour on the roads, for the period of seven (7) years. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief approved and confirmed the finding and sentence.

"At a Gen. C. M. re-assembled at Fort William on the 11th June 1833, Private James Richardson, of His Majesty's 3d Regiment, or Buffs, was arraigned on the charge of having deserted from his Regiment, stationed at Berhampore, on the 4th of February 1833, when on duty on the Inlying Picket. The Court found the prisoner Guilty of the crime laid to his charge, and on having taken evidence of previous convictions, sentenced him to suffer solitary imprisonment for twelve (12) Calendar months.

"Approved and Confirmed: but in consideration of the prisoner having, through some error of the Civil Authorities, been marched from Jungpore to Bhaugulpore, and thence to Dinapore instead of direct from Jungpore to Berhampore, and his consequent long confinement previously to trial; his subsequent confinement is to be limited to six Calendar months, from the date of the Order publishing the Court Martial."

At a Gen. C. M., re-assembled at Fort William on the 11th June 1833, Private Nicholas Cusic, of His Majesty's 16th Foot, was arraigned on the following charge.

"Highly unsoldier-like and disgraceful conduct in having stolen a pair of Nankeen Trowsers, and a Shirt, the property of Private Thomas Orst, of the same Regiment, on or about the 19th May 1833." Of which charge the Court found the prisoner guilty and sentenced him to suffer solitary imprisonment for the space of (6) six Calendar months." "Approved and Confirmed."

At a Native Gen. C. M., assembled at Barrackpore on the 9th July 1833, Sheikh Khodabux Sepoy, 55th Regiment Native Infantry, was arraigned.

"For highly riotous conduct, in striking the Orderly Havildar of his Company, Assud Ally, a blow on the head and then drawing his Bayonet upon him, at the same time and subsequently threatening to take his life, while in the actual performance of his duty," upon which charge the Court found the prisoner guilty, and sentenced him to receive three hundred (300) lashes on his bare back.

The Court brought to the notice of the Commander-in-Chief, the evident extreme youth of the prisoner, and his inexperience in the service, and Sir E. Barnes Approved and Confirmed the sentence, leaving it to be carried into effect or not at the discretion of Major General Watson.

At a Gen. C. M. assembled at Ghazepore on the 10th of July 1833, Private Boaz Trueman, of His Majesty's 38th Regiment, was arraigned on the following Charges:—

"1st. That in a house within the Military Cantonment of Ghazepore, in or about the

month of December 1832, he did feloniously assault and wickedly, unlawfully and feloniously did carnally know and abuse Marianne Willis, the daughter of Private Willis, of the 38th Regiment, an infant, then under the age of 5 years.

"2d. That the said Boaz Trueman did, then and there, feloniously attempt, unlawfully and carnally to know and abuse the said Marianne Willis.

"3d.—That the said Boaz Trueman did, in a Garden at Ghazepore, in or about the month of February 1833, feloniously assault, and wickedly, unlawfully, and feloniously did carnally know and abuse the said Marianne Willis.

"4th. That the said Boaz Trueman did then and there, in the said Garden, feloniously attempt unlawfully and carnally to know and abuse the said Marianne Willis.

Finding.—"The Court upon the evidence before it, finds the Prisoner Boaz Trueman.

On the 1st Charge, not Guilty, and acquits him accordingly.

"On the 2d Charge, Guilty.

"On the 3rd Charge, not Guilty and acquits accordingly.

"On the 4th Charge, Guilty.

Sentence.—"The Court Sentences the prisoner Boaz Trueman, No. 816 Private in His Majesty's 38th Regiment, to suffer imprisonment for the period of two (2) years, in such place as His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief may be pleased to direct.

Approved and Confirmed,
(Signed) E. BARNES,
Commander-in-Chief.

"The Court begs leave to recommend that at the expiration of the sentence, the prisoner be discharged with ignominy from His Majesty's Service."

At Gen. C. M. re-assembled at Ghazepore on Saturday the 13th of July 1833, Private Boaz Trueman, was arraigned on the charge having within the Military Cantonment of Ghazepore, in or about the month of March 1833, violently and feloniously assaulted Ellen Shields, Spinster, and then and there, against her will, did feloniously ravish and carnally know the said Ellen Shields.

Not Guilty.—Approved and Confirmed.

At a Europ. Gen. C. M. re-assembled at Kurnaul on the 5th June 1833, Gunner John Mulcahy, 3d Company 2d Battalion of Artillery, was arraigned on the charge that he, did on the 9th of May 1833, within the Military Cantonment of Kurnaul, feloniously, wilfully and of malice aforethought murder Michael O'Loughlin, Gunner of Artillery, by mortal wounding him with a Bayonet, of which wound the said M. O'Loughlin died.

Finding—The Court, upon the evidence before them, were of opinion, that the prisoner was not guilty of the charge of murder exhibited against him, of which they acquitted him; but found him guilty of Manslaughter.

The Court having found the prisoner guilty of Manslaughter, sentenced him to be transported as a Felon for life to New South Wales.

"Approved and Confirmed."

At a European General Court Martial assembled at Fort William on the 17th of April 1833, of which Colonel T. Tombs of the 6th Regt. L. C. is President, Captain Neil Stewart, of the 72d Regt N. I. was tried on the following Charges; viz.

Charges—"1st. For oppression and abuse of his authority, when in command of a Treasure Escort, between Berhampore and Itanagore, in having some time between the 5th of January and the 22d February 1833, illegally caused corporal punishment to be inflicted on Nuggo Sing, Prang Dutt and Jubbur Sing, Sepoys of the 72d Regiment Native Infantry, without trial; the said punishment having also been inflicted with a rattan, and for very trivial offences, in breach of the Regulations of the Service."

"2d. For highly unofficer-like and oppressive conduct, in having, on the same occasion, entered a remark in the Character Book of the 6th Company 72d Regiment Native Infantry, against the name of the above mentioned Nuggo Sing Sepoy, in these words: "ill behaved, quarrelsome, disobedient, and not trust worthy," without any sufficient grounds, and with a view to prejudice and injure that sepoy already suffering under the ill-treatment alledged in the 1st Charge."

"3d." For highly unbecoming conduct, in having on the same occasion, cruelly inflicted punishment on Kurreeemally Khidmutgar in his service, and dismissed him without his wages; part of the said punishment having been administered with his own hands, and part by a Drummer, with a rattan, by his Captain Stewart's order; in disregard of repeated Orders issued by authority, prohibiting ill-treatment of the Natives of India."

Upon which Charges the Court came to the following decision:

Finding.—The Court, upon the evidence before them, do find as follows:

"On the first Charge, the Court find that the prisoner Captain Niel Stewart, of the 72d Regiment Native Infantry, when in Command of a Treasure Escort, between Berhampore and Itanagore, some time between the 5th of January and the 22d of February 1833, illegally caused

Corporal punishment to be inflicted on Nuggo Sing, Prang Dutt and Jubbur Sing, Sepoys of the 72d Regiment Native Infantry, without trial; the said punishment having also been inflicted with a rattan, in breach of the Regulations of the Service. Of the rest of the Charge, the Court acquit Captain Stewart."

"On the 2d Charge, the Court find that the prisoner Captain Niel Stewart, of the 72d Regiment Native Infantry, did enter a remark in the Character Book of of the 6th Company 72d Regiment Native Infantry, against the name of the above-mentioned Nuggo Sing Sepoy, in these words: "quarrelsome, disobedient, and not trust worthy." The Court do not find that he wrote the words "ill behaved;" and the Court acquit Captain Stewart of the rest of the Charge."

"On the 3d Charge, the Court find that the Prisoner Captain Niel Stewart, of the 72d Regiment Native Infantry, is Guilty of unbecoming conduct, in having on the same occasion inflicted punishment on Kurreeemally, Khidmutgar in his service; part of the said punishment having been administered with his own hands, and part by a Drummer, with a rattan, by his, Captain Stewart's order; but the Court acquit Captain Stewart of the rest of the Charge."

Sentence.—"The Court Sentence the Prisoner Captain Niel Stewart, of the 72d Regiment Native Infantry, to be severely and publicly reprimanded, in such manner as the Commander in Chief may be pleased to direct."

Disapproved,

(Signed) E. BARNES,
Commander in Chief.

REMARKS BY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.—The Commander in Chief is entirely at a loss to reconcile the consistency of the Finding of the Court, on the first article of the Charge preferred against Captain Stewart, with the amount of punishment awarded.

The Court has found Captain Stewart guilty of illegally causing corporal punishment, with a rattan, to be inflicted on three Sepahees, of the 72d Native Infantry, and yet acquit him of abuse of authority; and do not enter in their sentence, into any justification or palliation of his conduct, to warrant so inadequate a punishment as that which has been awarded; neither is there one particle of evidence on the face of the proceedings, in proof of the necessity for the illegal punishment inflicted on the three Sepahees.

The Commander in Chief is ready to admit that there are extreme cases of Mutiny, or high insubordination, when an Officer in Command, not being armed with

the power of the law, is compelled for the due preservation of his authority and discipline, and the execution of the service which is entrusted to him, to resort to prompt measures not warranted under ordinary circumstances; the illegality of which measures may be justified by imperative necessity. But the Commander in Chief cannot allow, that there existed any such necessity in the state of the Escort under Captain Stewart's Command, or in the individual cases of the three Sepahees concerned.

The Sepoy Praag Dutt was punished for not falling in, on the assembly of the detachment, so quickly as he ought.

The Sepahees Nuggo Sing and Jubbur Sing were punished for disobedience of orders, in bringing their Tattoos into Camp contrary to orders; but it does not appear very clear, that when these two even were punished, they were aware of the order in question, nor what the precise nature of the order was; and with respect to Nuggo Sing, it would seem, from a question put to the eleventh witness on the prosecution (Subadar Fyze Khan) by Captain Stewart, that he was not punished for disobedience of the order before mentioned.

In the first place, the order, whatever it was, was given out in a very loose manner, as appears by the answer of the Pay Havildar Dhooneah Sing, the 7th witness on the Prosecution, to the question.

"In what way were the orders to the Detachment promulgated.

Answer.—"The Captain gave them personally to me: I reported them to the Subadar and Jemadar; and they proclaimed them in the Lines. This is the custom with orders of small moment."

The same Witness, page 42 of the Proceedings, says, he does not know if Nuggo Sing and Jubbur Sing had personally received the order not to bring their Tattoos into Camp. Subadar Fyze Khan says, page 64, "Nuggo Sing brought his Tattoo into Camp 3 or 4 days before the order was issued, the other man brought his in on the same day it was issued;" and on being again asked, "was it not after Jubbur Sing had been punished, that Nuggo Sing brought his Tattoo into Camp?"

Answer.—"Before."

Question.—"Did he not bring in the Tattoo afterwards?"

Answer.—"No, before."

With regard to the nature of the order, the Pay Havildar, who is a principal witness, says, page 35, "The Captain asked him (Jubbur Sing) why he had brought a 'Horse against orders'?"

The Subadar Fyze Khan is asked, page 67, "Did you receive or promulgate

orders from Captain Stewart previous to reaching Rungpore, that the men were not to *bring* Tattoos?"

This goes to the actual possession of, and not the bringing of Tattoos into Camp; the preponderance of the evidence, however, is in favor of the latter.

It is contended that Nuggo Sing was punished for disobedience of the order; but the Commander in Chief is at a loss to reconcile this with the import of the following question put to the Subadar Fyze Khan, at Captain Stewart's request page 65, viz.

"Were you not standing close to me, and speaking to me, when Nuggo Sing was punished for putting my Grass-cutter on his Tattoo?"

The Commander in Chief has entered into these details in justification of his most decided opinion, that the Court was called upon to pronounce Captain Stewart guilty of the whole of the first Charge.

With respect to the 2d Charge, the Court seem either to give no credit to, or set on value on, the evidence of Lieutenant Beatson, the Adjutant of the 72d Regiment Native Infantry, the Sergeant Major of the same, Subadar Fyze Khan, Jemadar Pursun Ditchit, and the Kota Havildar Dhooneah Sing, all of whom give the Sepahee Nuggo Sing an excellent character.

The Sergeant Major Richard Whitehead, says, page 61 "he is remarkable beyond the generality of Sepahees for good behaviour."

Under all these circumstances, the Commander in Chief cannot but disapprove of the Finding and Sentence of the Court, and shall feel it his duty to bring the Proceedings under the special notice of the Governor General in Council.

Captain Stewart will continue in arrest at large until further orders.

The Commander in Chief cannot dismiss this subject, without noticing an assertion made by Captain Stewart in his defence; viz "that it has been proved to you that 'it is a constant practice in the Company's Service to inflict punishment with a rattan. I believe there is not one of you present who has not himself seen it done.'"

The Commander in Chief cannot admit, that it has been proved to be the constant practice to inflict punishment, with rattan on Sepahees; but that it does appear in evidence on the trial of Captain Stewart that two Drummers of the 72d Regiment Native Infantry were so punished, much to the reprehension of Major Salnon, Commanding that Regiment.

The Commander in Chief calls upon General Officers of Divisions and separate Commands, to make the most minute en-

quiries as to Captain Stewart's assertion : and if they find any such practice as that alluded to, exist, to take the most effectual means of suppressing it.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Simla 16th July, 1833. Lieutenant E. T. Spry, of the 24th Regt. N. I. having been pronounced fully qualified for the appointment of Interpreter, is exempted from future examination in the Native Languages.

Simla, 19th July, 1833.—During the absence of Head Quarters from the Presidency, all applications for extension of leave from Officers, not belonging to the Presidency Division, who are on leave in Calcutta, are to be transmitted through the Assistant Adjutant General of the Army at the Presidency, who will send them to Commanding Officers of Regiments, &c. to be forwarded through the regular channel, or (in urgent cases) transmit them to Head Quarters direct.

2th July 1833.—The Commander in Chief desires, that more attention be paid to the 84th Article of the Articles of War for the guidance of His Majesty's Forces, than he observes frequently to occur in the Charges exhibited against Soldiers. The previous convictions alluded to in this Article, cannot form any part of the Charges preferred against a Prisoner; all that is necessary is, that the Prisoner should have due notice of the intention to produce evidence as to previous convictions for any other offences.

His Excellency further directs, that the notice be inserted at the foot on the back of the copy of the Charge or Charges, which are furnished to the Prisoner previously to his trial, with a detail of the former convictions which are to be brought against him, but not embodied in the Charge.

Officers Commanding Divisions will be careful to publish in their Division Orders any directions contained in the General Orders issued to His Majesty's Troops in India, which require to be attended to by the Officers of the Honourable Company's Service, who may serve as Members of a Court Martial on Soldiers of the King's Regiments; and it must be kept in mind, that they are subject to the Annual Mutiny Act, which may at the time be in force, and not to the Mutiny Act for the Company's Soldiers, (the 4th Geo. IV. Cap 81) for Military offences; although they are equally included in the provisions of that Act, for the trial of Soldiers accused of crimes which are Capital by the Laws of England, and offences against person or property, when the offenders are above 120 miles from the Presidency.

25th July 1833.—Lieutenant J. C. Sage, of the Invalid Establishment, is permitted

to reside and draw his Allowances at the Presidency.

29th July, 1833.—Major General J. Watson's Presidency Division Order of the 11th instant, directing Cadet W. H. Tombs to do duty with the 31st Regt. N. I. at Barrackpore, is confirmed.

30th July, 1833.—Ensign J. C. Donagan, of the 19th Regt. N. I. having been pronounced fully qualified for the appointment of Interpreter, accordingly exempted from future examination in the Native languages.

Cadet S. Pond, attached to the Europ. Regt. directed to join and do duty with the 63d Regt. N. I. at Mullye.

31st July, 1833.—Sergeant William D. Berkeley, of the Town Major's List, at present employed as a Teacher in the Free School of the Old Mission Church in Calcutta, remanded to the Artillery Regiment as a Sergeant.

19th August, 1833.—2d Lieutenant V. Fyre, of Artillery, directed to continue doing duty with the 3d Battalion of Artillery at Cawnpore, until the 1st February next.

Assistant Surgeon F. C. Henderson, M. D., directed to continue to do duty with the Detachment of Sappers and Miners at Allahabad, until further orders.

27th August, 1833.—The Sirhind Division Order of the 23d instant, directing Assistant Surgeon A. C. Duncan, M. D., to continue in Medical charge of the 9th Regt. I. C., until the 1st of October next, confirmed.

27th August, 1833.—Sergeant Major A. Creighton, of the 64th Regt. N. I., permitted to rejoin the 2d Company 1st Battalion of Artillery, to the rank he held previous to his removal from that Company.

28th August, 1833.—Captain R. Wyllie Major of Brigade at Cawnpore, will officiate as Assistant Adjutant General of the Cawnpore Division, during the absence of Captain Mackinlay.

2d September, 1833.—The Presidency Division Order of the 18th ultimo, directing Assistant Surgeons T. Chapman M. D., and J. H. Dallas, M. D., to do duty, the former with His Majesty's 3d Regiment or Buffs, and the latter with His Majesty's 49th Regiment, confirmed.

The Meerut Division Order of the 27th ultimo, appointing Lieutenant H. Wade, of His Majesty's 13th Light Infantry, to do duty at the Dépôt Landour, during the absence of Captain Cox and Lieutenant Graham, confirmed.

Lieutenant S. Williams, of the 8th, permitted to continue doing duty with the 20th V. I., until the arrival of the latter Corps at Delhi, when he will proceed to join his own Regiment at Kurnaul.

Ensign R. G. George, of the 7th, permitted to continue doing duty with the 15th Regt. N. I. at Barrackpore, until the 55th January next.

Pensioned Sergeant John Goodall permitted to reside and draw his Pension at Benares, and Pensioned Sergeant William Wood permitted to reside at Midnapore, and draw his Pension from the Presidency Pay Office, instead of at Dinapore.

5th September, 1833.—The Cawnpore Division Order of the 23d ultimo, directing Assistant Surgeon T. Smith, M. D., of the 8th Regt. L. C., to proceed to Banda, and officiate as Civil Assistant Surgeon at that Station, vice Stewart deceased, confirmed.

Lieutenant Colonel J. Aubert's Regimental Order of the 25th ultimo, directing Ensign J. T. Fergusson to act as Interpreter and Quarter Master to the 70th N. I. during the absence on leave of Lieutenant Mercer, confirmed.

Supernumerary Ensigns J. S. D. Tulloch and R. T. Edwards, attached to the 55th Regt. N. I. appointed to do duty, the former with the 43d Regt. at Secroora, and the latter with the 74th N. I. at Dinapore.

Apothecary J. Douglas directed to join and do duty with Lieutenant Colonel Parker's Detachment of Artillery proceeding by water to Cawnpore.

GENERAL ORDERS BY GOVT.

(Omitted in the former page.)

2d August, 1833.—Paragraph 24 of the Appendix to the Medical Regulations rescinded and, Commanding Officers in Camp or Cantonment, where a Superintending Surgeon may be present, authorized to exercise their discretion in granting Orders to such Medical Staff.

Ensign F. W. Horne, of the Infantry, is permitted, at his own request, to resign the Service of the Hon'ble Company.

22 August, 1833.—Paragraphs of Letters Nos. 23, 27 and 34, from the Court of Directors, under dates the 20th and 27th March and 10th April 1833.

We have permitted Ensign William Henry Mussie, late of your Establishment,

to resign the Service.—This resignation takes effect from the 16th July, 1833.

Letter dated 21st March.—Para. 1. We have permitted Lieutenant A. Campbell to return to his duty on your Establishment in the month of April.

2. We have permitted Lieutenant Colonel Robert L. Dickson, late of your Establishment, to retire from the service.—His retirement takes effect from the 4th February, 1833.

Letter dated 10th April.—We have permitted Surgeon Thomas Henderson, late of your Establishment, to retire from the Company's service. His retirement takes effect from the 4th June, 1829.

The nomination of Captain J. A. Crommelin, of the Corps of Engineers, to Superintend the Building of a Ghaut at Muttra, is cancelled; and that officer accordingly placed at the disposal of His Excellency the Commander in Chief.

Lieutenant M. T. White, of the 37th Regt. N. I. having been declared incapable of performing the active duties of his profession, is at his own request transferred to the Invalid Establishment.

Port William; 21st August, 1833.—Mr. Edward Mayberry of the Pension Establishment permitted to return to Europe on Medical Certificate.

August 30th.—The resignation of Lieutenant Samuel Mallock, of the Corps of Engineers, of his situation as an Assistant Secretary to the Military Board, accepted.

Lieutenant James Vansittart Law, of the 1st Regt. N. I. at his own request, transferred to the pension Establishment.

Captain Roxburgh, of the 30th R. N. I. Assistant to the Agent to the Governor General on the North East Frontier, permitted to remain at the Presidency, till the 15th of October.

13th September, 1833.—The duties heretofore assigned to the Civil Assistant Surgeon at Delhi, to be performed in future by the Garrison Assistant Surgeon, who in consequence will receive from the Civil Department, a monthly allowance of Rupees 100 in addition to his present salary.

MILITARY BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

- Aug. 3 Delhi, the Lady of Capt. Thomas Polwhele, 42d Regt. N. I., of a son.
- 4 Cawnpore, the Lady Alexander Chalmers, Esq. of a son.
- 5 Chowringhee, the Lady of Captain Sewell, of a daughter.
- 11 Allahabad, the lady of Lieutenant Colonel George Mome, 57th N. I. of a son.
- 16 Calcutta, the lady of Captain W. Rees, of a daughter.
- 17 Meerut, the lady of Ensign and Adjutant Bristow, of a son.
- 26 Port William, the wife of W. H. Bogue, of a son.
- „ Muttra, the lady of Captain Alexander, of the 5th Light Cavalry, of a son.
- 30 Nussereabad, the lady of Captain H. W. Bellow, of a son.

- Sept. 3 Calcutta, the lady of Capt. D. I. Richardson, of a daughter.
 14 Calcutta, the lady of Ensign Newbold, sub-assistant commissariat general, of a son.
 16 Bangalore, the lady of Mr. Assistant Surgeon Temple, of a daughter.
 19 Calcutta, Mrs. John Jenkins, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

- Aug. 3 Muttra, Captain Cheap, major of brigade, to Miss Harriott, daughter of Major Harriott, of the 5th light cavalry.
 10 Calcutta, William Tilton, 41st N. I., to Marry Anne, daughter of Capt. James, of the Bengal Army.
 Sept. 2 Ghazepore, lieutenant J. J. Grant, H. M. 3rd regiment, to Sarah, fourth daughter of the late Archibald Colquhoun, esq.
 17 Chinsurah, M. A., Charles, D. C. Adams, Esq., H. M. 16th Regt. to Amelia Anne, youngest daughter of the late Sir George Garrett.
 19 Chinsurah, Lieutenant Blair, of the Buffs, to Miss Louisa Killich.
 25 M. A. George, P. Vallancy, Esq., Madras N. I., to Harriett, fifth daughter of the late Sir George Garrett.

DEATHS

- Aug. 4 Sholapore, Lieutenant John Corrie Bowater, of the 2d Grenadier Regiment Native Infantry.
 9 Madras, J. A. Penman, esq. late a surgeon at the presidency, aged 49 years.
 3 Batoo Ghaut, Thos. Edward Spencer, eldest son of Mr. Conductor T. Spencer, of the Expense Magazine, Duni-Dum, aged 13 years.
 10 Saugor, the infant daughter of Lieutenant John De Fountain, 56th N. I. aged 4 months and 15 days.
 11 Calcutta, Lieutenant D. S. Saw, of the H. C. 5th N. I. to Alicia, the second daughter of S. H. Boileau, esq., register of native correspondence, late in the Persian office.
 13 Chunar, apothecary P. Hamerton, aged 50 years.
 „ Allahabad, Sergeant Alexander, McMillan, of the magazine establishment aged 32 years.
 „ Kamptee, George Lenox, the infant son of Captain J. C. Coffin, aged 14 days.
 17 Cawnpore, William Stacy Bowles, son of Captain W. Burlton, assistant commissary general, aged 1 year and 10 months.
 19 Mussorie, Maria Louisa, the infant daughter of Lieutenant C. Stewart, aged 10 months and 7 days.
 20 Banda, Charlotte Augusta, the lady of A. W. Begbie, esq. C. S.
 23 Chowringhee, the lady of Dr. W. S. Chaters, officiating presidency surgeon.
 24 Cawnpore, Lieutenant George Crofton, H. M. 16th lancers, aged 26 years.
 27 Delhi, Mr. Edwards, Deputy Commissary of Ordnance.
 29 Chinsurah, Charlotte Adelaide, wife of lieutenant W. P. Audin, aged 17 years and 10 months.
 „ Kyauk Phyao, Colonel W. H. Wood, military commandant in Arracan.
 31 Fort William, Robert Harry, the son of sergeant Hugh Carr.
 31 Meerut, Catharine, the infant daughter of K. Macqueen, Esq., Surgeon, 71st Regiment Native Infantry, aged 1 year 2 months and 15 days.
 Sept. 1 Cawnpore, of Cholera, Ensign P. T. R. White, His Majesty's 31st Regiment, 36 years, second son of W. R. White, Esq., Surgeon to His Majesty's 16th Lancers.
 2 Calcutta, Lieut. Alfred Arabin, Brigade major aged 32 years.
 3 Mussorie, Lieut. James Stephens, of the 19th N. I.
 7 General Hospital, Mrs. Christiana Low, wife of staff Sergeant Low.
 7 Ghazepore, Eliza Frances, the daughter of Dr. Butler, aged 1 year and 9 months.
 11 Cawnpore, Charles Lisle Fenrud-docke, son of Captain William Burlton, Assistant Commissary General, aged 8 months and 15 days.
 13 Chunar, Lieut. Colonel Auriol, Commanding the Garrison of Chunar. His gentleman-like manners, liberality, and amiable disposition will long endear his memory to every person who served under his command.

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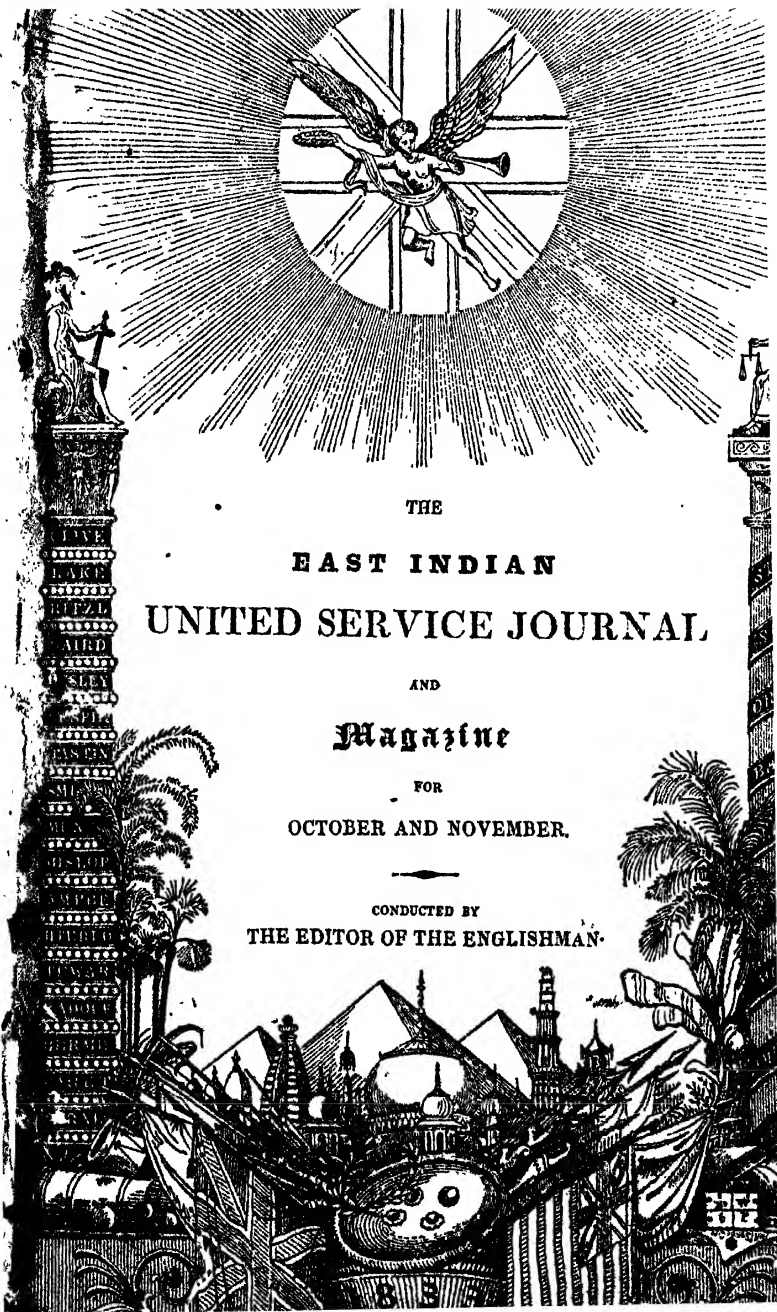
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CONDUCTED BY
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THE
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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MILES—AN OLD SUB—W. C.—A CONDUCTOR—and Nos. 2 and 3 of the GROANS, have all been received, but we know not when to promise their insertion. It has happened on both occasions of our appearance, that, after we have signified an intention to publish articles sent us by particular friends, able and interesting papers have reached us from strange hands; and feeling anxious to give a preference to new adherents, the latter have taken place of the former; always, however, with our friends' consent. If our readers will refer back to the NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS in No. II. they will find that very few of the papers there promised are now inserted; while, on the other hand, several articles of interest not then announced are yet allowed a place. This is a practice we hold it prudent to retain.

FAVORITISM—A CAPTAIN OF INFANTRY—ABUSES OF PATRONAGE—AN OLD ARTILLERYMAN—are declined. The subjects they discuss are all within the province of this Journal, but the manner in which they are treated by our four Correspondents is vulgar, personal, and otherwise decidedly objectionable. The grievances of the Army will not be redressed through the medium of virulent and intemperate papers. A calm statement of facts, a dispassionate argument, and a manly appeal to the supreme authorities, will do more than all the "sound and fury" that could be mustered. The Army must look upon this Journal as the channel of its representations to authority, differing from the established and legitimate channel only in this particular; viz., that the representations go forth unaccompanied by the qualifying or counter-statements of the *local authorities*. For the guidance of our readers we deem it right to state that this Journal is forwarded at our own expence to the following individuals;

The President of the Board of Control, the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Court of Directors, the Duke of Wellington, Mr. Hume, Mr. Buckingham, Colonel De Lacy Evans, the *Editor of the Times*, the *Editor of the English United Service Journal*, the *Editor of the Naval and Military Gazette*, the *Secretary to the Oriental Club*, Captain Grindlay, General Sir Charles D'Albiac, and the Honorable Mountstuart Elphinstone.

If our readers can name any other Officers or public men who would be likely to give *notoriety* to the wishes of the Army, we will cheerfully forward copies of the Journal to their address.

SERVICES OF REGIMENTS.

We observe that a writer in the *Bombay Gazette* is publishing sundry *memoranda* regarding the services of the different regiments in the Army of that Presidency, with the view of removing the unfavorable impressions which the improper conduct of a few sepoys in the garrison of Bombay had created. We notice the subject to shew our Bengal friends that on the other side of India the Officers *are* able to record the deeds of their corps, and to put it to their pride whether a fourth number of the *East Indian United Service Journal* should be allowed to go forth without some similar testimonies to the prowess of the troops who fought in Burmah, at Bhurtpore, in Nepal, &c. &c. &c. ? We are almost ashamed of being obliged to reiterate the subject.

THE
EAST INDIAN
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No. III.

THE BENGAL EUROPEAN HORSE ARTILLERY.

Remarks on the ineffective organization of our European Troops of Horse Artillery, with an arrangement proposed for bettering their condition, without incurring additional expense to the Government, but, on the contrary, ultimately proving a saving to it.

Before entering into this subject, it may be well to remark, that the introduction of novelty is not my object or intention ; but (as far as our peculiar circumstances will admit) to endeavour to form our corps on that principle which constitutes the organization of all European Horse Artillery with the exception of our own ; and that the very general opinion of experienced Officers of the Regiment,—namely, “that our gun horses are much *too overloaded*, and our guns *too feebly manned* in action,”—has induced me to make the following remarks, although I am well aware of the opposition every one must meet with, in attempting to alter any thing which thirty years’ practice and prejudice has continued to strengthen.

It will also be well, before entering into the now proposed arrangement, to give some short description of the present formation of our European troops of Horse Artillery with details of the actual weights carried and drawn by our gun horses ; not with the presumption of attempting to inform my superiors in knowledge of these matters, but in order that a more concise and explicit view of the subject may be obtained.

DETAIL No. 1.

Complement.

Complement in men of that part of a European Troop, who are mounted on Troop horses.

Staff Sergeant.	Sergeants.	Corporals	Bombardier.	Trumpet.	Farriers.	Rough Riders.	Gunners.	Apothecary.	Native Doctor.	Total.
1	6	6	10	2	2	2	80	1	1	111 men.

Complement in Horses, 169 horses.

Complement in Guns and Waggon.

Guns, 9 prs.	4 24 prs. How.	2 = 6 * guns.
Waggon ditto,	1 ditto ditto	2 = 6 } 10 waggons.
Spare ditto ditto,	2 ditto ditto	2 = 4 }
Total.....		16 carriages.

REFERENCES TO DETAIL NO. 2.

Gun in action.

Nos. 1, 3, and 5. Europeans mounted on gun near horses; and Nos. 8, 9 and 10. Europeans mounted on waggon near horses; remain mounted in charge of the different pairs.

No. 2. Corporal, and "Portfire-man," dismounts from gun off leader.

No. 4. "Spungeman," dismounts from gun off centre horse.

No. 6. "Ventsman," dismounts from gun off pole horse.

No. 7. "Loadsmen," Bombardier, dismounts from waggon off leader.

No. 11. Serjeant, commanding the gun, out-rider.

No. 12. Gun Lascar, carries ammunition to No. 7, dismounts from gun axletree near seat.

No. 13. Gun Lascar, carries ammunition to No. 12, dismounts from gun axletree off seat.

No. 14. Gun Lascar, serves out ammunition to No. 13 from the waggon, dismounts from waggon near limber box.

No. 15. Syce, holds Serjeant's horse, dismounts from gun near limber box.

†† The remaining two boxes, one on the gun, and the other on the waggon limber, generally have syces seated on them, who are found useful on many occasions.

DETAIL No. 3.

Shewing the number of men and horses left spare, the troop being complete and in marching order.

1 Staff Serjeant.

6 Serjeants.

2 Trumpeters.

2 Farriers.

1 Apothecary.

1 Native Doctor.

13 Out-riders and Staff.....	13 Men and 13 Horses.
In the Six Guns,	36 „ and 36 „
In the Six Waggons,	24 „ and 36 „
In the Four Spare Waggons,	12 „ and 16 „

Total 85 Men and 101 Horses.

2d set of horses for the Guns, 36 „

Grand Total 85 Men and 137 Horses.

Complement of a Troop, 111 „ and 169 „

Spare Men, 26 „ and 32 „

DETAIL No. 4.

Weight in Draft.

GUN.

cwt. qrs. lbs.

Brass 9-Pounder, 8 3 16

Carriage with empty limber,
wheels not included, 17 1 13

Ammunition contained in two
boxes, at about 2 cwt. each box, 4 0 0

Four men (Natives) on Gun Car-
riage, at 8 stone 7 lbs. each, 4 1 0

cwt. qrs.

Six horses draw, 34 2 1 or 5 3 each horse.
Wheels, 4 1 15

Or Carriage complete, 38 3 16 or 6 2 each, very nearly.
Or deducting for Carriage, 12 0 0

Six horses draw, 26 3 16 or 4 2 each, very nearly.

WAGGON.

cwt. qrs. lbs.

Nine Pounder Waggon empty,					
wheels not included,	16	2	24		
Six boxes of Ammunition at about					
2 cwt., each box,	12	0	0		
Two men (Natives) at 8st. 7lbs.					
each,	2	0	14		
Six horses draw,	30	3	10	or	<i>cwt. qrs.</i>
Wheels,	4	1	15		5 0 and upwards each.
Or Carriage complete,	35	0	25	or	5 3 each.
Or deducting for Carriage,	12	0	0		
Six horses draw,	23	0	25	or	3 3 each.

DETAIL No. 5.

Weight in Burthen.

MEN.

Average weight of men in lightest undress, that is, shirt and linen trousers, 10 stone (by supposition).

Dress, Arms, and Accoutrements, 1st. 12lbs.

Then say average weight of Men, 1st. 12lbs.

HARNESS.

st. lbs.

Front or centre horse, mounting order,	4	3
Front or centre horse, led (Pad-saddle,)	3	1
Pole horse, mounting order,	4	10
Pole horse, led,	3	8

From the above weights we find the following burthen carried on the backs of the draft horses.

GUNS.

*stone lbs.**stone lbs.*

Four horses carry 16 1 each or Total 64 4

Two horses carry 16 8 each or Total 33 2

Six horses carry Total 97 6 or 16 3 average each.

WAGGON.

*stone lbs.**stone lbs.*

Three horses carry, 16 1 each or Total 48 3

One horse carries 16 8 each or ditto 16 8

One ditto ditto, 3 1 each or ditto 3 1

One ditto ditto, 3 8 each or ditto 3 8

Six horses carry Total 71 6 or 11 12 average each.

N. B. I am indebted to two Officers holding high situations in the Regiment, for the weight of gun-carriages, &c., and also for the weights of harness, dress, arms and accoutrements, and have therefore every reason for believing them to be correct.

Having now finished with details, and, I trust, given (to such as are not Bengal Artillery-men) some insight into the present system, I shall proceed to point out what I consider to be the great defects of it.

FIRST, That our gun horses are so greatly overburthened, that should they ever be called upon to perform forced marches to a great extent, or on any occasions to co-operate with cavalry, where quick work and duration of labour is demanded, our European Troops of Horse Artillery, would, more than probably, be an incumbrance instead of assistance, and create general disappointment.

It may be urged, in opposition to the above assertion, that a troop or more, under some distinguished officers, have upon one or more occasions proved the contrary. But it may be asked, Did not those officers find it necessary to make some arrangements for lightening the gun horses? Were their guns and waggons as heavy as they are at present? Were their troops particularly well horsed? and had they the advantage of "hard-working condition," and cool weather, not generally to be obtained? And lastly, what condition and appearance did their horses present afterwards, when compared with the cavalry horses who they had accompanied? and could they have gone with the cavalry the next day, had it been required?

There is, however, no arguing with people who will assert that a *double* or a *single* load makes no difference to a horse, and such arguers are sometimes not wanting. The following loads, as laid down by different authors, for horses in *Europe*, will best shew whether *Indian* cattle, in the burning sun of Bengal, are up to the labour imposed upon them. (Compare weights in burthen and draft, Details 5 and 4, with the following loads allowed in England.)

"An able horse can draw 350 lbs, though in length of time 300, is sufficient."—*James's Mil. Dict.*

"When assisted by a wheel carriage, a horse will draw about 3 cwt. for a length of time; and a pair, being united, about 7½ cwt. on a smooth plain, or level road."—*Landmann.*

"Horses in the service of Artillery should not be made to draw above 3 cwt. each, besides the weight of the carriage."

"Six horses may draw 5 cwt. each, total 30 cwt. including the carriage."

chance of leaving a carriage in the enemy's hands; the waggons likewise causing double difficulty in manœuvring, and double noise and confusion in all difficulties.

I am by no means of opinion that the waggons should *never* be exercised with the guns, but in general they should not.

It will be necessary, of course, to take out the waggons occasionally for instruction in manœuvring with them; but when they do not go out, so many changes of horses will be left to the guns, that a very great saving in the wear and tear of horse-flesh will accrue to the Government, and the troops be more efficient from having fewer unbroken and unsteady horses in them.

FIFTHLY,—*That even with our waggons in action, and before any casualties have taken place, we have not a complement of efficient men to serve the guns in action.*

Since our horse artillery guns have for many years been manned as at present, officers not in the corps, will scarcely believe the above assertion; but officers in the corps (not blinded to its defects by prejudice) are however all well acquainted with the circumstance. *Nine* Europeans, or *seven* Europeans and *two* Lascars, serve a Foot artillery gun, and the smartness with which it is done, and particularly the "*limbering-up*," is a fine contrast to the hurried and bungling manner, in which this important duty is performed by the horse artillery, who have only *five* Europeans and *three* Lascars to serve each piece, this hurrying being necessarily occasioned in "*limbering-up*," from the men who perform that office, having to run and scramble on their horses (*tailor fashion*) on the *off-side*, before the word "*forward*" can be given or at least obeyed; one of them (No. 7), having to run all the way to the *off leader of the waggon* to mount.

This however is a point perfectly immaterial when compared with the weak state of our guns in actual service. The Europeans who serve the gun are 'Spunge-man,' 'Loads-man,' 'Portfire-man,' 'Vents-man,' and 'Serjeant Commanding'; two of the Lascars pass up the ammunition to the loads-man, and the other lascar serves it out.

Now this answers every proposed parade, and mere show, so long as nothing but *blank* cartridges are used, and where the *directing* or '*trailing*' of the gun is a matter of no importance; but, before an enemy, is the serving out of *shrapnell* or *common shells* set for certain distances, to be entrusted to a Lascar, who cannot read the figures marked on the 'caps' of the fuzes'; and to whom, all orders relative to ammunition required must be conveyed in Hindostanee, by Officers, or Non-Commissioned Officers, of a European troop?

If the troop has taken up a position for battery for any length of time, is the 'setting' of 'fuzes' in the field to be entrusted to a Lascar? In action, is not the 'trailing' off a gun, a point requiring much nicety and expedition, and ought there not invariably to be a most able bodied and smart man at the 'trail'? and who is there in the horse artillery? If a Lascar comes, he is not fit for such a position at the gun: this is no time for a European Officer or Non-Commissioned Officer, to be chattering Hindostanee; '*Experientia docet!*'—The two troops of horse artillery, which, on three or four occasions, went into action before Bhurtpore in 1824-25, found it necessary to make some alterations and additions to this beggarly method of manning the guns. In my two guns, of the troop with which I did duty, the Corporal (usually No. 7, or loads-man) served out the ammunition, the Serjeant (No. 11,) took the place of the Corporal as loads-man, and the Officer laid the gun; the Lascar, whose place the Corporal had taken, came and attempted to trail the gun, but the ground (not being a parade ground) was rough, and the Lascar was totally unfit for that duty.

At my other gun, where no officer was, a man dismounted from a spare-horse (which was tied to a tree, or given to a syce) and supplied the place of the Corporal as Loads-man.

It will be observed that even in *numerical* strength, we are one man short of a full complement, except where an officer directs the gun (three out of six) the '*assistant at the trail*' appears to have been deemed quite superfluous in the Bengal European Horse Artillery.

LASTLY,—We may safely assert that every European troop of horse artillery (Bengal) on going into action, will find it absolutely indispensable to adopt some arrangements for serving the guns, which they *do not practise on their parades*; and this defect, so glaring to all military men, needs no remark whatever.

N. B. When shot or shells are fired at 'Field Battery Practice,' they are stowed in the *gun-limber*, and as the Officer, or Serjeant can, in that case, superintend the ammunition, the defect of not having a competent person to serve it out from the *waggon* is not felt on parades. •

I beg to remind all my friends in the regiment, who dislike having its inefficiency exposed, that '*concealing its defects is the most certain method of prolonging them;*' and that as 'I love the child, I do not spare the rod.'

NEW METHOD OF MANNING THE GUNS, PROPOSED.

For the sake of being explicit, I shall give the alterations proposed, in detail as before.

DETAIL—A.

Complement.

Complement in men, horses, guns and waggons, the same as detail No. 1, with this difference in the enlisting of men for the Horse Artillery :—

The Troops to be composed of two different classes of Europeans, having equal numbers of large stout men, and short light men, answering on foot parades to front and rear ranks; and on mounted parades to "Drivers," and "Artillery-men to serve the guns." As Troops required tall, or short men, to fill up casualties, so they might recruit by reference to Headquarters.

As promotion would go on equally in both classes, the non-commissioned officers would be mixed,—some large, and some small men.

As at present, about twenty syces (taken promiscuously from the Troop) accompany the guns upon all occasions of exercise, mounted, as shown, on the "Limbers;" so I propose that thirty smart, active syces, be selected in every Troop, for this purpose; twenty-four only will be required on parade. They should be dressed in a suitable uniform of their own,—a "blue cloth native jacket, and red turban;" and if these thirty syces received one rupee each per month extra pay, every purpose would be answered.

These little arrangements regarding the men being made, I propose to man the guns as follow :—

REFERENCE TO DETAIL B.

Gun in Action.

Nos. 1, 2, and 3, Europeans (light-weights or short men) mounted on the gun near horses; and Nos. 4, 5, and 6, Europeans (light weights) mounted on the waggon near horses, remain mounted in charge of the different pairs.

Nos. 7, 8, 9, and 10. Europeans (heavy weights, or large men) at.; "Spunge-man," "Loads-man," "Vents-man," and "Portfire-man," and are *Out-riders*.

No. 11. Serjeant, commanding the gun,—*Out-rider*.

No. 12. Bombardier, "assistant at the trail;" dismounts from "gun off leader."

No. 13. Lascar, supplies No. 8 with ammunition from No. 14; dismounts from "gun limber off box."

No. 14. Lascar, supplies No. 13 with ammunition from No. 15; dismounts from "waggon limber off box."

No. 15. Corporal, serves out ammunition from the waggon to No. 14; dismounts from "waggon off leader."

No. 16. Serjeant's Syce; dismounts from "gun limber near box."

No. 17. Syce, holds horses of 8 and 10; dismounts from "gun axletree off seat."

No. 18. Syce, holds horses of 7 and 9; dismounts from "gun axletree near seat."

No. 19. Spare syce, or officer's syce; dismounts from "waggon limber near box."

The out-riders 7, 8, 9 and 10, being posted on the line of march as shewn in detail B, "gun on its march," on the word "left about" being given, come to the "left about," or rather, "*left counter-march*," the same as though their horses were in harness; by so doing they preserve the same line of ground occupied by the guns and waggons in coming to the "left about."

On the word "prepare for action," No. 9, moves up to the near side of the waggon, and No. 7 moves up to the near side of No. 9, Syce. No. 18 immediately quitting his place on the "gun near axletree seat," to receive charge of their horses. Exactly the same takes place on the off side; No. 10 moves up to the off side of the waggon, and No. 8 to the off side of No. 10 syce. No. 17 from the "gun axletree off seat," receiving their horses. This position of the out-riders' horses has been thought most convenient for many reasons;—they are out of the way;—a free passage for the conveyance of ammunition is left open between the gun and waggon;—the waggon separates the pairs, and prevents fighting.

Nos. 11 serjeant, 12 bombardier, and 13 lascar, dismount and "unlimber" the gun, by which time 7, 8, 9 and 10 will be ready to serve it. Nos. 14 and 15 also dismount and take post at their proper stations.

On the word "limber up," Nos. 11 serjeant, and 13 lascar, lift up the "trail;" 7, 8, 9 and 10 "spoke-up;" No. 12 does *not* assist in "limbering up," but runs to mount his horse, off leader of the gun, immediately; No. 13 afterwards secures the sponge-staff on the trail of the gun; No. 14 returns any ammunition from the waggon that may be out, and secures the ammunition boxes. No. 15, corporal, runs to mount his horse, off leader of the waggon, immediately.

The gun and waggon may now move off immediately, if required;—no time is lost in mounting the men after the gun is "limber'd up." Nos. 7, 8, 9 and 10 (the gun being now retreating) should follow the *gun*, gliding into their places, in the same order as before, as the gun passes by them; syces 17 and 18 resuming their seats on the gun axletree at the same time.

Before again "preparing for action," or, coming to the "left about," to *advance*, the detachments of out-riders should receive the word "detachments to the front," and passing up on the near side of the guns, they again resume their places between the gun and waggon.

If after "limbering up," it is intended that the detachments should immediately follow the *waggon* instead of the gun, the word "detachments to the front" should be given immediately after the word "limber up." They will

then get into their places in rear of the waggon as it moves off; but in this case time must be given them to mount, after the gun has been "limber'd up," before it moves off.

Some officers may be of opinion, that our troop horses generally, cannot be held by one syce in pairs; they must, however, remember, that only twenty four horses are required to be so held; and I make no doubt, that double that number in every troop could be held by smart syces in that manner.

For the better securing of the horses of 7, 8, 9 and 10 in action, the following simple contrivance is proposed:—A bamboo, or small bar of wood, 3 feet in length, having a "strap and buckle" at one end, and a "cotton rope" at the other, is attached by means of the "strap and buckle," to the *near snaffle* ring of the horses of 8 and 9; in action, the "cotton rope," at the other end, is passed through the *off snaffle rings* of the horses of 7 and 10. The syce can then hold two horses as easily as one; the bamboo, or bar, keeping the horses' heads apart and preventing them from smelling each other,—the principal cause of horses fighting.

This will occasion no delay whatever, there being no fastenings necessary; the bamboo remaining always buckled to the horses of 8 and 9, the riders holding the cotton rope attached to the other end, in their bridle hands.

DETAIL C.

Shewing the number of Men and Horses left spare, the Troop being complete and in marching Order.

- 1 Staff Serjeant.
- 6 Serjeants.
- 2 Trumpeters.
- 2 Farriers.
- 1 Apothecary.
- 1 Native Doctor.

13 Out-riders and Staff,	13 Men and	13 Horses.
24 Men Out-riders for manning the Guns, 24	"	24 "
In the six Guns,	24 "	36 "
In the six Waggon,	24 "	36 "
* In the four spare Waggon,	4 "	16 "

Total,... 89 Men and 125 Horses.

Complement of a Troop,.....111 " 169 "

Spare men,... 22 and 44 Spare horses.

* Our European Troops being so very deficient in men, the spare Waggon must be brought on by the syces under the charge of the remaining 4 Bombardiers.

DETAIL D.

Weight in Draft.

The same as detail No. 4.

DETAIL E.

Weight in Burthen.

Average weight of large, or front rank men, in lightest undress; that is, shirt and linen trowsers, 11 stone

Average weight of short, light or rear rank men in lightest undress, 9 stone.

Dress arms and accoutrements,	1st.	12lb.
Then say average of large men,	12	12
And average of short men,	10	12

Harness.

Weight of Harness as in detail, No. 5.

Now in the new proposed arrangement, the following will be the weights carried on the backs of the draft horses:

Gun or Waggon.

1 Horse (off leader) carrying a non-commissioned officer, who may be a front or rear rank man; we will take the medium of the two classes,	16st.	11lb.	total	16st.	11lb.
1 Horse (off centre) pad saddle,	3	1		3	1
1 Ditto (off pole)	3	8		3	8
2 Horses (near leader and centre,)...	15	1		30	2
1 Horse (near pole)	15	8		15	8

Six horses carry total 68 6 or 11 5 aver.

Present burthen (see detail 5) gun 97st. 6lb. or 16st 3lb. average each.

New burthen proposed gun or wagon,

68	6	11	5	average each,
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Difference 29 0 4 12 average each.

The three waggon horses of the near side will also carry 1 stone less each, from having their riders averaging 9 stone instead of 10 stone weight. The horses of the 4 out riders, (*being all carrying harness*) will have on their backs 17 stone 11lb. with leading or centre harness; and 17 stone 8lbs. pole harness.

GENERAL REMARKS ON THE NEW SYSTEM PROPOSED.

Were we at liberty to improve our Horse Artillery at the expense of the Government, a much better system than this might be proposed; but as our means are curtailed, so our exertions in endeavouring to obviate the effects of it, should be increased.

In the arrangement proposed for manning and horsing the guns, I trust the objections to the present system have been remedied. *Twenty-nine stone* have been taken from the backs of the gun horses and *three stone* from the backs of the waggon horses; the gun can go into action *without* the waggon, and is, at all times, manned by a full and efficient complement.

This system proposed admits of a further improvement; the off leaders of both gun and waggon can also be led or driven postillion, and Nos. 12 and 15 made out-riders also; the Corporal riding in line with the leaders of the waggon, and the Bombardier in line, and in charge of the out-riding detachment. In action, the Serjeant's syce can hold the Bombardier's horse also; and No. 19 spare syce, the Corporal's horse; for No. 19 is completely *spare* at present; since, when an Officer directs the gun, the Bombardier, not being wanted at the trail, can hold the officer's horse.

Some Officers, however, may be of opinion that guns are more easily manœuvred when *both* the leaders are mounted; but the above arrangement should invariably take place in *all marching*, by which 11st. 12 lbs. is taken from the backs of the off leaders of both guns and waggons; and twelve of the forty-four spare horses cannot be better employed on a march than in carrying these non-commissioned officer.

The principle I go upon, is to endeavour to bring the *whole power of the troop into play at the same time.*

I may remark here, that this method of manning our Horse Artillery guns was approved of by my late Captain, (now Major,) to whom it was shewn about two years ago.

I may also add, that a troop in January and February last marched up from Cawnpore to Meerut, when the system of driving the off horses was adopted; and on the arrival of the troop at Meerut, some old Horse Artillery Officers declared that they had never seen the horses of a troop come "off a march" in such fine order and condition.

It will be observed that, on a *line of march* there is a relief for all horses, in the guns and waggons, doing *double work*; that is, all the *near* horses who carry a man upon their back;—there are (not including the Serjeant) six out-riders attached to each gun and waggon; their horses (carrying har-

ness) can be put into the guns and waggons on the near side, in a *forced march*, and relieve the horses there, doing *double work*; the men (out-riders) mounting the horses taken out.

Another great use to which these out-riders can be put is the following; namely, attaching a greater power to the carriages, by hooking on eight, ten, or twelve horses to them, on all occasions, where it may be required.

In crossing deep sandy beds of rivers, ascending steep acclivities, and in a swampy heavy country, the *foot*-Artillery employ their "drag-ropes;" they have their gun's crews to each, and generally, on service, marching with infantry, *can be*, and frequently *are*, assisted by them. But it may be asked, what are *horse* artillery, marching with *cavalry*, to do, in a case of this kind? I know what they would be obliged to do! Depend upon that "*seu mens bonum*," the syces! The most natural method, however, in Horse Artillery is to hook on a greater power *in horses*, if you have them with you (and by crossing the difficulty, *half the troop at a time*, a double power can always be applied). But as hooking-on pairs after pairs to the *front*, so increase the "line of draft," that a very great portion of power applied is *lost* the following alteration in horse artillery ("drag-ropes,") is proposed, for the purpose of attaching the out-riders to the guns, on these occasions, in such a manner, that the horse may pull *four abreast* of each other. (See sketch of new "drag-rope" proposed, and horses attached outside, to the guns. Figs. 1, 2 and 3.)

It will be found that the distance between the axletree of the limber, and the axletree of the gun, or body of the waggon, very nearly, if not exactly, corresponds in length to the length of a "long or leading trace;" and that—the distance between the "splinter-bar" of the limber, (or bar to which the pole horses' traces are hooked) and the axletree of the limber, very nearly, if not exactly, corresponds in length to the "difference in length between long and short (or leading and pole) traces."

From this circumstance it is proposed to make horse artillery "drag-ropes" in the following manner, by which *horses* can be attached outside the gun, and abreast of the horses in it.

The total length of the "drag-rope" AB; is equal to the "distance between the splinter-bar of the limber and the axletree of the gun." One end, A, having a splinter-bar of 2 feet in length attached to it for the purpose of hooking on horse's traces; as the 'drag-rope' is considerably *shortened*, an "eye" is made at the centre of the splinter-bar to join 'drag-ropes' together, when *long ones* are required for hand purposes, and the splinter-bars will then serve as 'toggles,' and not be inconvenient.

The length AC, or, rope part, is equal to the 'distance between the two axletrees,' (limber and gun); or equal to the length of a 'long, or leading, trace; the end C, having a hook for the 'drag-washer.'

The length CB, or, chain part, is equal to the 'distance between the splinter-bar of the limber, and the axletree of the limber,' or equal to the 'difference in length, between leading and pole traces.'

According then, as the horse brought to be attached, has got long, or short traces on him; the hook at the end of the rope, at C, or the hook at the end of the chain, at B, will be applied to the 'drag-washer.' (See figures 2 and 3.)

Twelve horses can thus be attached to a gun without increasing the "line of draft."

With violent kicking horses, however, there might be some danger of kicking into the wheel; but by shifting the 'drag-washers' to the axletrees of the *limbers*, the danger will be removed as the first horse attached to the 'drag-rope' will then pull in line with the *centre* horses of the gun, instead of the pole horses.

In this case *ten* horses only are attached, without increasing the "line of draft."

N. B. All "*washers*" in Horse Artillery carriages should be "*drag-washers*."

There are many useful purposes to which this 'drag-rope' might be applied. If the *limber* is disabled, the gun may be brought off by means of them.

On a late march, this 'drag-rope' was tried, and *nine* horses, three abreast, were every morning attached to one of the guns; *no one horse* refused to work freely, and a great many different horses were tried.

And now, Mr. Editor, I have finished; and shall be obliged by your giving this article a place in your "*United Service*." The 'plan-drawings' being merely sketched in with the hand, pretend to no *beauty of proportion* &c. but are perhaps sufficient for the purpose for which they are intended; neither, do I pretend to any *infallibility* in my remarks, which are offered with all due deference to '*the many*,' who are capable of correcting my erroneous opinions.

I am, Sir, your most obdt. servt.

OLD JACK BOOTS,

1st Lieut. Bengal Horse Artillery.

Mofussil, 1st September, 1833.

SKETCH OF THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE COLES IN RAMGHUR AND ITS DEPENDENCIES DURING THE YEAR 1832.

BY A SUBALTERN.

The author of the following pages is sensible that in a hastily penned sketch like the present, numerous inaccuracies must appear. He has confined himself strictly to the detail of military operations. Should unintentional errors appear in any of his statements, he trusts his readers will recollect that

“To err is human—to forgive divine.”

RAMGHUR.

The zillah of Ramghur, one of the largest in extent in these provinces, includes the whole country between Behar on the North, and Beerbhoom Pachete on the East, Singhbhum and Gangpoor on the South, and Singrowla Sirjoo-pur, &c. on the West. But the provinces which formed the scene of the operations last year, and with which we have more immediately to do, are Palamau, Torree, Burwa, Chota Nagpore, Sonopore, and the five Pergunnahs of Tamar; namely, Tamar proper, Rahee, Boondoo, Beruda, and Silhee. The relative positions of these Pergunnahs, which together form a tract of very considerable extent, will be found in No 6 of Arrowsmith's large Map, to which I beg to refer my readers.

The inhabitants of these districts, though commonly distinguished by local and provincial appellations, are, in point of fact, but one and the same tribe, which I shall designate—Cole.* Regarding their appearance, habits and custom, considerable information has already been published in the daily journals. I shall therefore confine myself to the following brief remarks.

In stature they are inclined to be short; and stout in build. Their countenances far from unprepossessing, and their arms and shoulders broad and muscular.

Religion, I believe, they have none, or very little. They pay no respect to the Brahminical tribe; and eat animal food of every kind, even rats,

* I cannot refrain from here noticing a popular mistake which these provincial appellations and the predatory habits of the Coles have given rise to. The Cole is always a Cole, and the Bloomij a Bloomij, but when a Cole takes service as a labourer, he is styled “D’hangar;” when he takes to plundering, the Cole is called “Lurka,” and the Bloomij “Chooar.”

For these words see Shakespeare's Hindostanee Dictionary. “Lurka” is but a contraction *per Syncope* of “Luraka,” which is the same as “Lurak,” warlike, brave. “Chooar” is a mountain robber, probably formed as some other singular noun substantive, are from one of the plurals of the generic term “Chor” in the pl. “Chooar” as “muki” forms pl. “Muhak.”—Author.

mice, bats, and snakes; if these latter are *animal* food. They are devoted to liquors distilled and fermented, and no kind of wine or spirits come amiss to them. They are simple, unaffected, brave in their own way, and have no natural antipathies, except to the horse. No Cole will keep or attend to a horse; which dislike is hereditary, and has its origin in an ancient tradition of theirs, of which I observed an account last year in the pages of the *Calcutta Literary Gazette*.

The weapons of the Coles are bows, arrows, and *bulwas* (or battle-axes), with some few spears, matchlocks, and swords and shields. In the use of the three first of these they are very expert, and some among them assert that they can take off the head of a live horse with one stroke of the *bulwa*.

Of the tracts of country above mentioned, Chota Nagpore is the most open. Indeed there is scarcely any jungle in this Pergunnah, which is for the most part flat. It is surrounded, however, on all sides but one with stupendous ghauts. These divide it from Torree, Ranghur proper, Barwa, Gangpoor, and Tamar. Towards Sonpore, however, there is nothing in the shape of natural obstacles to resist the ingress of an invading force. The ground is slightly undulating, but there are no high hills or dense jungles. Pulamau is very jungly. Torree less so. Burwa full of hills and jungle. But the worst portion of that country is the range of ghauts which, rising at the Southern extremity of Ranghur proper, takes a south-easterly direction and divides successively, Nagpore from the five Pergunnahs of Tamar, and Singhboon from Pateoon, and which end on the bank of the Subnareka river, opposite which appears the magnificent Dulma, of which I shall have occasion hereafter to speak. These ghauts, which in many places are nearly insurmountable, are clothed with jungle of the densest kind, and the villages in small cleared spots between the hills are inhabited by a race of marauders, as much feared by the neighbouring lowlanders as ever were Rob Roy, or his worthy fellows by the peaceable folks who were exposed to their harrassing inroads. I shall, however, have occasion subsequently to allude to these worthies, and so proceed to my narrative.

In the beginning of January 1832, in consequence of a requisition from the Magistrate of Ranghur, Captain Wilkinson, commanding the Local Corps on the South-West Frontier, proceeded towards Chota Nagpore with one hundred pepoys and a six-pounder. After a fatiguing march across the ghauts, this small detachment arrived on the 14th January at Rarah, a small village, or rather hamlet, situated between two ranges of hills, and immediately under the town of Peetowrah, from which place it is distant perhaps six miles. In consequence of information received at this place of the near approach of the insurgents who had extended their ravages to within a few miles of Peetowrah, a Native Officer's party was immediately pushed forward for its defence, and the remainder of the detachment fol-

lowed on the morning of the following day. On the 16th, the smoke and flames on every side at some little distance from the Camp afforded ample proof that the insurgents were still pursuing their work of destruction. But during this day none of the enemy appeared, and the detachment was too small to push into the heart of a hostile and ravaged country to the certain interruption of its communication with our own provinces.

On the 17th, information having been received of the approach of the enemy in force, away went Captain Wilkinson to attack them, and having fallen in with them at a village, (name I cannot recollect) cut up some few, he having been joined by ten horsemen belonging to some influential and wealthy native in Ranghūr.

Lall Jeebnath Sahy of Ginjaoo, a town twelve or fourteen miles from Peetowreeh to the Westward, was, I believe, the only native of respectability who had attempted to arrest the progress of the rebels, and he was destined to bear the brunt of their next attack. On the 18th or 19th of January, a force of seven hundred insurgents attacked Ginjaoo. But Lall Jeebnath was not to be overcome. He happened to have a horse and two ponies in the town, upon which he mounted three of his followers, and gallily sounded to the charge. The assailants were repulsed and a few of their number left dead on the field.

On the 22d, a large body of the insurgents having assembled at a village called, I think, Nuggroo, Captain Wilkinson marched to attack them. The main body escaped, but a small party were met with, of whom one or two were killed and about thirty made prisoners.

The 23d was a blank day; but the 24th brought the rebels in overwhelming force. Their numbers this day amounted to between three and four thousand, and were opposed to the detachment above mentioned of one hundred sepoy, ten horsemen, and a six-pounder gun. But of what avail is untutored strength? Though the Coles had resolved this day to drive the troops from their position, they were so surprized at the idea of such a mere handful of men marching some miles from camp to be at them a little earlier, that they retired as fast as they came, and the detachment returned weary and dissatisfied to camp, having only succeeded in killing five men. One of these was a lame Cole, who could not retreat so expeditiously as his friend, he was consequently overtaken by one of the sowars, who endeavoured to cut him down, but who paid with his life the penalty of his daring. The Cole laid about him with his battle-axe so manfully that he brought down the sowar's horse, and then hacked the rider in such a way that after a few days lingering he died. The lame Cole fell by a spear, but whether that of a sowar or a camp follower I cannot exactly say.

There were no military operations for some days after this. The Coles, like the Greeks of old, had a dissension in their camp, or had learned to respect the prowess of their few but sturdy adversaries. However, having taken heart of grace and collected all their brethren, they, on the 3d February, came down in a terrific mass to attack the Camp, their 'cohorts' not 'gleaming with purple and gold,' but shining with the pure black gloss of nature's nudity. On they came in three columns of attack, seemingly resolved on death or victory. If so, however, it was death to their hopes and victory over their shame; for no sooner did they see the detachment advancing to meet them, than *saue qui peut* was the cry, and off they ran without so much as allowing the sepoys to fire a musquet. I should have mentioned that some days previous to this, Captain Wilkinson had received a reinforcement of fifty sowars and some matchlock-men, commanded by *Mitrabhan Singh Baboo, son of Ghunshum Singh, the Rajah of Deo. The Baboo sahib in person headed one party of the Sowars, and Captain Wilkinson commanded the two other repulsing parties. The Sowars on this occasion cut up some twenty or thirty of the enemy.

On the 4th February, Captain Maltby, 2d Native Infantry, with one hundred sepoys of that regiment, arrived at Peetowreah, and assumed the command of the forces. This officer had been detached from Dinapore in consequence of the Magistrate's requisition. He arrived at Teekoo, which is in Nagpore, about the 30th January, 1832, and was immediately attacked by a party of Coles, whom he succeeded in repulsing with no great loss on their side. On the following day five distinct parties of the enemy surrounded his Camp. Captain Maltby immediately made a division of his men, and advanced in four parties to the attack. The enemy, however, were disinclined to come to blows and retired, upon which, Captain Maltby ordered a charge of some irregular cavalry which were with him, and these succeeded in killing sixty of the enemy. The next day was a blank, but on the subsequent one, the insurgents attacked the baggage of the detachment, but were speedily repulsed, and the Captain's detachment was not again attacked till it reached Peetowreah, though the enemy "hover'd about them and marked the road they took."

From the 4th till the 14th February but little was done in the neighbourhood of Peetowreah, most of the inhabitants of that neighbourhood having

* I may be permitted in this place to pay a sincere and well merited tribute to the worth of Mitrabhan Singh, who together with his father the Rajah, have since the time alluded to, fallen victims to the unrelenting scourge of India,—Cholera Morbus. I have been fortunate enough during my pilgrimage in the East to meet with several very worthy and estimable native gentlemen, but certainly none who surpassed, if equalled, the subject of this notice,—Mitrabhan Singh. I think, I may with confidence appeal to my brother officers, and fellow sojourners in Nagpore, to bear witness to his courage, his kind and obliging disposition, his genteel manners, and the total absence of scheme and stratagem in his conduct, which usually distinguish the natives, high or low. *Requiescat in peace!*

tendered their submission. But from other parts large bodies of troops were marching upon the disturbed districts. Benares, Dinapore, Midnapore, and the Presidency were all furnishing their quota of troops to quell the insurrection.

The 50th Native Infantry, under command of Captain Impey had been turned off its route from Goruckpore to the Presidency, and ordered *viâ* Gya and Chittra, into Chota Nagpore. A troop of the 3d Light Cavalry, joined the corps on its march, and the force arrived at Tekoo on the 8th February. During this and the succeeding day this regiment was repeatedly opposed by bodies of the enemy who suffered a loss of sixty killed. On the 10th, a large *ghole*, or mass of the enemy, in number four or five thousand, approached the camp, threw down their arms and begged quarter, which of course was granted them. On the following day Captain Impey with his force marched to Choorea, and a number of those who had yielded the day before accompanied them. On the march a tremendous hail storm occurred, which forced the troops to shelter themselves the best way they could and blew away the Coles altogether! *i. e.* forced them to disperse and seek shelter from the pelting of the pitiless storm. This may appear singular to those who have never experienced a hail storm above the ghâts; those who have witnessed such an occurrence, and especially the officers of the 50th Native Infantry, will readily understand how such a circumstance might occur. While the 50th Native Infantry were in Burwa, some time subsequent to this, a hail storm came on which forced every one to seek shelter under carts or whatever else they could find. Some cattle were killed by the stones and a hole made in the roof of Major B——'s palanquin as big as the mouth of a large wine glass. But to return to my tale.

On the day that Captain Impey's force arrived at Choorea, the Peetowreeah detachment was reinforced by a party from Benares, consisting of Captain Angelo's troop of the 3d Light Cavalry, two companies of the 54th Native Infantry, and a Brigade of six pounder guns.

On the night of the 13th February, a party of the 50th Native Infantry marched from Choorea to attack the village of Sillaguen, the Head-Quarters of Bhoodoo Bhuggut, one of the most influential insurgent leaders. The party consisted of four companies of the 50th Native Infantry, and a division of Cavalry. This detachment succeeded admirably in surprising the village. Bhoodoo Bhuggut, his family and immediate followers, in number about thirty, were armed with swords and shields, and were enabled from the nature of the ground which was intersected with ravines, to make an obstinate resistance. But even they were soon overcome, and the rebels lost on that field, Bhoodoo himself, his brother, and nephew, with one hundred and fifty of their followers. • The loss on our side was,

killed—none; wounded severely,—one trooper and three horses; wounded slightly—four troopers, and one horse with accoutrements missing.

At the identical moment that this bloody scene was acting at Sillagaen, a party of 250 sepoys from the Pectowreah detachment were pouring out the phial of their wrath on the inhabitants of Dewree and Nugree, two villages about twenty miles from camp, the inhabitants whereof had refused repeatedly to submit when summoned. This party was equally successful with that at Sillagaen, as was also a third party which at the same moment attacked the villages of Burra and Chota Garree, about 15 miles from Pectowreah, in another direction. These three simultaneous attacks convinced the insurgents that there was no safety for them in their villages. But the cavalry too picked up a little information. It was generally asserted in camp, that the troopers when charging Bhoddoo Bhuggut's body-guard found their new regulation straight sabres snap short of at the hilts, which obliged the generality of the men to have recourse to their pistols. For the truth of this I cannot myself vouch, but it was certainly said to be the case, and also that in consequence thereof one or two of the troopers met with accidents in re-loading their fire-arms. This will, I trust, be sufficient warning to the Military Board, or whosoever may be charged with seeing that the Hindostanee Cavalry are furnished with good cutting *tulwars*, or else properly taught to use the point of their weapon. The straight round-backed sword, now in use, would be, and is, a most efficient weapon in the hands of a man who can give point and make his horse aid the point with his motion; but in the hands of a native, accustomed from his childhood to a cutting sword, it is worse than useless. The pistol has no business in the hand of a trooper except as a dernier ressort to save his own life by taking that of his adversary, and I cannot but think, though I may be mistaken, that the Native Cavalry would be much better without them.

About this time, the troops having assembled, orders were issued for forming the force into three columns. One at Pectowreah, one at Chooreah, and one at Tekoo, which, beating up the country between them, should gradually and simultaneously advance through the Pergunnah. The columns were accordingly formed as follows.

TEKOO.	CHOOREA.	PECTOWREAH.
<p><i>Right Column.</i> Captain Johnson, with a wing 50th N. I. and a 6 pr. gun, Mitterjeet Sing's Irregulars.</p>	<p><i>Centre Column.</i> Captain Impey with Headquarters 50th N. I., 1 troop 3d Lt. Cavalry Burkundaz Levy, one 6 pr. gun.</p>	<p><i>Left Column.</i> Capt. Maltby, with Ramghur Local Battalion, 100 Sepoys 2d N. I. one 6 pr. gun, 2 companies 54th N. I., 1 troop Lt. Cav., Mittrabhan Sing's contingent of horse and foot.</p>

On the 23d an attack was made by a part of the centre column on a body of the insurgents who had taken up their position in the Hills near Gujnoo, a village some miles distant from Choorea. If the Insurgents had previously learned that distance and darkness formed no security against our troops when marching on their villages, they this day found that the steepest ascents could not afford them safety, or check the rapid career of our brave sepoy, who, headed by their officers, dashed at and boldly carried the heights in a very short time in spite of all opposition. The killed on the part of the enemy this day were only about twenty; but several prisoners were taken, and the leader of this party of the enemy immediately submitted.

The state of Tooree, which lies to the North of Te-koo, rendering the presence of a military force absolutely necessary, Colonel Hawtrej with the remaining squadron of the 31 Light Cavalry, proceeded into that Pergumnah. One squadron was at this time in Palamao. The Colonel made Bareetoo his head-quarters, but on the morning of the 25th, making a march of sixteen miles to Baloonuggur, he surprised and made a famous example of a body of the enemy.

In consequence of the Palamao squadron of the 3d Light Cavalry having-fallen back from Leslie Gange to Manatoo, (having been opposed by overwhelming bodies of the insurgents,) the whole of the right column marched on or about the 26th to join Colonel Hawtrej, who, it was said, proposed moving to the support of the Palamao squadron. The place of the right column was therefore occupied by Captain Impey with three Company's 50th Native Infantry, from the centre column, and one hundred regulars from the left column supplied Captain Impey's place in the centre. In this situation things remained in Nagpore. Colonel Hawtrej, on the 28th February, in consequence of the near approach of the 64th Regiment Native Infantry, from Dinapore, remanded the Teekoo column, and on the 5th March the three Chota Nagpore columns had re-assumed their respective places as mentioned in the table above.

It is unnecessary for me to detail the successive marches from these points, as the columns met with no opposition on the route till they had reached the following posts, on the 15th March.

<i>Right Column</i>	<i>Centre Column</i>	<i>Left Column</i>
Armie.	Maharaj Gung	Khoontie, in Sonopore.

From Armie, the neighbourhood being perfectly tranquil, Major Blackall, who had superseded Captain Impey in the command, marched into Burwa, for the purpose of co-operating with Colonel Hawtrej, who was marching towards Chiekery in Palamao.

The centre column marched to Khoontie, where it was incorporated with the left column. Previous, however, to the junction of these columns, namely, on the 20th March, at 2 A. M. a party of two hundred sepoys, with some irregular cavalry, marched to surprise a post of the enemy situated at Kunneedah, a village about ten miles from camp and amongst the hills. This surprise was most entirely effected, but from the nature of the country and the great activity of the hill tribes, the loss on the part of the enemy was not so great as it would have been under more favorable circumstances. There must, however, have been a considerable number of them killed and wounded. Dozens of their *korahs*, or granaries, on the tops of the hills, were destroyed; and at about noon the detachment filed out of the hills, driving a herd of one thousand and eighty head of the enemy's cattle. But our troops had here got a very different enemy to oppose to the Coles they had met with on the plains, or the fact of being among their own hills and woods gave the enemy spirit: they were not disposed to let the sepoys quietly drive their herds away; every bullock and buffalo was fought for, and it was with considerable difficulty and some loss that the detachment succeeded in carrying off its plunder into the plain. But even here they were not done with; the insurgents hung about their rear and flanks, and forced them to make good every foot of ground on their route homeward. Captain Ewart, of the 54th, who commanded on this occasion, sent into camp intelligence of his success; upon which Captain Maltby struck his camp and moved it some miles nearer the ghauts, where, at five P. M., the detachment arrived safely with the cattle, some prisoners, and all their wounded, after having had fifteen hours incessant and laborious exertion, the greater part of it too under a broiling March sun. The enemy had followed the department nearly to the camp itself. The Coles this day exhibited various proofs of their audacity;—two or three of them actually unfixed and walked off with the bayonet off one of our skirmisher's musquets in the jungle, and two or three of them had clothed themselves in the dress of sepoys who had been cut down in the *melée*, and in their borrowed plumes were conspicuous among their naked and simple brethren. Besides this, they delighted in congregating at the top of a hill out of the reach of shot and abusing the sepoys in every way they could imagine most annoying. But the men cared little for their abuse or themselves, till, on the way out of the hills, they came on the body of a drummer boy who had fallen in rear of the company and been cut off. He was a little smart-looking boy and seemed a favorite. The Coles had, with their usual blood-thirstiness, actually cut every joint of the boy's body across. Just before arriving at this spot, a company of the 54th N. I. was marching in sections past a corner of a jungle, and not an enemy in sight, when the bheestie hung a yard or two behind the last section. As quick as thought, and before an alarm could be given, he was dead, being cut down with a battle-axe by a Cole who had been lying in ambush in the jungle, and who disappeared again as quickly as he had appeared.

The enemy during this day had appeared in such force that it was resolved to postpone all further attacks on them, till the centre column had effected its junction with us, which it did the following morning; and on the 22d the combined force marched to attack the Ghauts, leaving one hundred Infantry, half a troop of Cavalry, and a gun, to guard the Camp, which was now on the right bank of the Tujna Nuddee about two miles from the hills.

It was some time after day-break when the column filed out from Camp and took its way to the hills. A slight shower of rain fell as it proceeded, but as it promised soon to cease, the sep ys secured their arms and held on their course. On approaching the dense jungle, Captain Maltby directed the Officer commanding the Cavalry to choose a situation and halt on the plain where his troop could act, while the Infantry proceeded into the hills to dislodge the enemy and destroy their villages. There being no appearance of an enemy at this time the column marched over the ground the detachment had passed on the 20th, and halted on the top of the first range of heights, which position was attained without a shot having been fired. Here, after a consultation having been held, it was determined to cross the second range and get into the plain where the enemies' villages stood. The *bildars* were accordingly set to work to clear a road for the guns, which with infinite labor were at length dragged up the ghaut, and a despatch was sent off to the Officer in command of it, desiring him to bring up his cavalry, which he accordingly did, leaving however a portion of a troop to guard a plain and the ford of a nullah, which had in the morning been crossed, and over which the homeward course lay. As the column wound down the hills, the *nakarra*, or drum of war, was heard in advance, and on the flanks, and a body of the enemy was perceived rapidly crossing a height on the right separated from the troops by a ravine of great extent, and immediately betwixt them and their camp. The column continued its course, and in half an hour reached the plain close to two of the insurgents' villages, which were instantly attacked and destroyed. At this point the column fell in with the Tamar road, which runs past the camp, and as the gun had been found a very great incumbrance among the hills, it was deemed advisable to send it back by the road to camp. A company of infantry and a troop of Cavalry escorted it westward, while the remainder turned their faces to the east. The party had proceeded about a mile and half, and had crossed a deep rocky stream, when some of the camp-followers raised a cry of the enemy; this, however, proved to be a false alarm, and it once more addressed itself to the journey, when the report of the gun echoing among the hills, put all on the *qui vive*. Discharge succeeded discharge, and peals of musquetry intervened, so the word was given to the right about—the recall sounded for the advanced guard—a fresh advance was thrown out and the party again commenced breasting the heights, which separated them from the detachment with the gun. They might have been at the spot nearly as soon by the road, but in that case

could have done but little good, whereas the course taken across the hills brought the column directly on the rear of the enemy. Just at this period it commenced raining very heavily. In ten minutes I doubt whether a musquet would have gone off. Road there was none, and ascents had to be climbed, so steep and so thickly wooded as to be almost impassable. The Magazine cattle (camels) were repeatedly brought down on their knees and the labor of preserving even their own feet was to the men excessive. After half an hour's marching over the hill they descended, and at the foot ran a *nullah*, as rapid as Iser itself—full of rocks—and as deep as a well. On the opposite side of it was a plain with very small and detached clumps of jungle from one to another of which the enemy were seen running to escape. The two Officers with the advanced guard pushed across the *nullah* previous to the arrival of the column, crossed the plain after the retreating enemy, and then followed them up a hill so nearly approaching to the perpendicular as to be almost impracticable. In the mean time the column having more leisurely crossed the *nullah* followed the winding of the low ground, and arrived on the Tamar road just as the advanced guard had succeeded in putting to flight a *ghole* of the enemy, which had been drawn up on the road. It was not known at the time the work that *ghole* had been performing, but soon we learned it. The march from this point towards camp was less rapid, as it was found that the gun had been safely escorted. The party accordingly went leisurely along, till it was surprised by the sight of a cavalry horse lying dead in the middle of the road on the open plain. It advanced 200 yards further, till it came to a patch of dwarf jungle; and here the eyes of all were greeted with a horrid spectacle—the mangled body of a havildar of the 3d light cavalry. He had been literally cut up and his head hammered till not a feature of his face was visible. The body was put into a *dooly* and the party proceeded—passing the corpses of the havildars and several other horses of the troop. The road on every side was covered with bundles of grass, which led us at first to suppose that the grass cutters of the troop had been surprised when cutting fodder and their guard cut up, but this turned out not to be the case. It appeared that the party of cavalry, which the reader will recollect was left to guard the ford, &c. had found it necessary in consequence of the near approach of the Insurgents in the jungle to withdraw to seek some opener ground. In doing so they came to this patch of jungle, which was occupied by the enemy, and were consequently exposed to all the perils of running the gauntlet without the possibility of their retaliating to a good purpose, as the jungle would not admit of a charge being made. The jungle extended but a very short distance, but even in their progress through there were, I think, eight men and twenty-two horses struck, besides which both the Officers with the party were severely wounded. These particulars however we did not learn till our return to camp, which took place about a quarter of an hour after leaving this jungle.

Three hours after our return to camp we were gratified by seeing the advanced guard (which had not heard the recall when the column changed front) arrive safely, having done considerable execution among a party of the enemy which it had fallen in with. We had been a good deal alarmed previously by a camp-follower having brought intelligence of the total destruction of this party in a village some miles off. His fears, I imagine, led him homeward before the brush was decided, and he had taken for granted that numbers must win the day. The loss on our side this day was considerable, but must have been far exceeded by that of the enemy, as the escort with the gun was in close action with them for a considerable time.

From this date till the 28th March we were in comparative quiet, The frequent recurrence of hail storms and rain rendered military operations nearly impossible. On the latter day the detachment marched and destroyed some *korahs* of the enemy's at Bolunga-bun. No great execution could be done from the strong nature of the country, and we had only one sepoy wounded. The next two days we were at rest and on the 31st March, Colonel Bowen, with the 34th Native Infantry, arrived from Tamar and assumed the command; and no further military operations were undertaken in Sonapore.

But before I proceed with my narrative it would be necessary to revert and bring up the different columns to the positions they now occupied. But to make it plainer, I will trace Colonel Bowen's march to this point, and the progress of the 50th subsequently to Bauninee, at which place that regiment joined the other two columns.

Colonel Bowen, with the 34th Native Infantry, having been ordered from Barrackpore to the disturbed districts at the beginning of February, arrived at Julda on the 21st of that month, having marched up the new road, and left it at or near Rogonathpore. Two companies of the 28th Native Infantry, under Captain Horsburgh, of that Regiment, had also been sent to Patcoom, from Midnapore, and subsequently joined Colonel Bowen, by his orders. On the 22d, Colonel Bowen reached Eeloo, and at 9 A. M. marched to Sonohattoo, where the rebels were said to be in force. Three hundred of the enemy were met with at this place, several killed, and the remainder dispersed with a loss on the part of the 34th of none killed, and only three or four wounded. On the 25th, Captains Wheler and Phillott were detached to attack parties of the enemy at Hooonta, in which service they met with complete success, and cut up several of the enemy, with a loss of one European Artillery man, and two sepoy wounded. On the 27th February, a wing of the 34th, with guns, proceeded to the attack of Barrihattoo, which place they took, and cut up sixty of the enemy. One Artillery horse was killed on this occasion, and four sepoy wounded. On the morning of the 28th a part of Captain Horsburgh's detachment made an attack on a hill, near the village

of Sulgee, and killed a number of the enemy, with no loss whatever on the side of the troops ; and on the 2d of March, an attack was made by a party of the 34th, on some *kornhs* (or *arrals* as they are called in Tamar) of the insurgents, and a good deal of grain seized.

On the 6th March, Colonel Bowen detached from his camp at Tamar Ghur, a party to attack Bugdee, which place they found had been evacuated by the rebels. A few shots were fired on this party. On the 7th a party attacked Sosokotoo, but the enemy were not inclined to await the attack, but fled. On the evening of the same day a strong party under the command of, if I recollect right, Captain Phillott, 34th Native Infantry, marched to attack the stronghold of the enemy at Irkee. This place was reported to be very strongly stockaded, and it seems the detachment found, on their arrival, that the report was correct. Trees and brushwood had been cut down, and defences made with these, which it was found quite impossible to force. After an unavailing attack, in which the enemy lost 30 of their men, the detachment was obliged to withdraw, and return to camp. The expedition unfortunately cost the life of a promising young officer, Ensign Macleod, of the 34th N. I. and one sepoy. This officer was wounded with an arrow in the abdomen, and died two or three days afterwards. On the following day a strong party with guns moved to the attack of Irkee, but on their arrival found the stockade, &c. evacuated. From Tamar, on the 14th March, Col. Bowen returned to Berada, and from thence on the following day, to Hujam Bunta. On the 16th or 17th the 34th N. I. marched to Silhee, from which point two companies of the 38th were detached to Boondoo, and a similar force from the 34th to Tamar. From Silhee Col. Bowen proceeded again to the neighbourhood of Tamar, and from thence to Irkee and Kundapurtee. The Irkee ghaut, which is a very steep and difficult pass, was regularly stockaded with timbers, which had been felled and laid across the road, but these were soon cleared away, and the detachment arrived with no loss at their camp at Kundapurtee on or about the 29th March, in spite of the enemy, who were hovering about them on every side the greater part of the way. At Kundapurtee an accident occurred, which cost the lives of two of the European Horse Artillery. Three of these men had gone to bathe in a nullah farther from the camp than was either prudent or allowed, while in the water, they were fired upon by a body of the insurgents, who succeeded in killing two of them. The third man escaped to camp, though wounded with an arrow. This man mentioned that one of his deceased comrades, on getting out of the water, wrested a *bulwa* from the hands of one of his assailants, and called out "Come back ; I have got an axe." The fugitive was, however, too well pleased at his escape to venture back, and reached the camp in a state of utter exhaustion.

On the following morning Colonel Bowen with his detachment effected a junction with the camp of the left column at Sarhudkele, as above mentioned

From the 1st April to the 7th the combined forces, which, by the bye were encamped on the opposite banks of the Tujua Nuddee, *looking at each other*, lay inactive. On the latter day an order was issued for the return of the 34th N. I. to Tamar, the insurgent chiefs having submitted; but at night this was again countermanded, and on the morning of the 9th the whole force moved to Rae Baumnee, in Bundgaon. On the march to this place the undulating country exhibited our now large force to great advantage, and the *tout ensemble* of our column of march was quite imposing enough to afford a much more powerful enemy than the Coles reasonable cause for having recourse to valour's better part. But our fighting days, alas! were over, and we were doomed to witness the entry of the hostile chiefs, not in warlike array, but in the guise of humble friends. We here rested till the 14th April, when the 34th N. I. bid adieu at once to their fellow warriors and Sonapore, and marched towards Tannar, and from thence shortly after to cantonments.

But on the morning of the 34th, quitting Baumnee, their place was supplied by the 50th N. I., under Major Blackall, whose progress since we left him at Armie on the 15th March it will now be necessary to follow. A brief notice will, however, suffice for this column, as it met with no opposition in its progress.

On the 22d March Major Blackall reached Palkote, the capital of Chota Nagpore, and the residence of Juggernaut Sahy Deo, the Raja of that country,—as pretty a specimen of a jungly Raja as can be conceived.

On the 26th the 50th N. I. reached Raidee; on the 28th Kassir; and on the 31st March or 1st April arrived at Burwanuggur, which place again it left on the 5th April, having, as I previously observed, experienced no opposition on the route. On the 14th April Major Blackall, with the 50th N. I. reached Rae Baumnee, where the troops remained for some time. During the stay of the detachment here, the insurgent chiefs arrived to "*mak' their bows*" to the Commissioners for the disturbed districts, who were and had usually continued with the left column.

First came Sona Kundapatur, of Koriekela, in Singhboom, a regular professional moss trooper, except that he rides Shanks' nag, in place of a sturdy dun horse. Next came one Bindrae Maukie, of whom, if my readers have never heard, I wish they never may.

"Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise!"

We heard but little else for some months, except that the tale of his deeds was sometimes joined with that of the achievements of the hill gentlemen on his left, whom they called Dussae Soen, or some such euphonious name. The followers of these worthies were armed in most complete style, with

bulwabs, bows and arrows, the bows being ornamented with tails of animals and the arrows, and sometimes the heads of the bowmen, with feathers of every gaudy plumaged bird that flies.

What passed between these heroes and the gentlemen whom they came to visit I cannot say, not being one of the initiated, and being wholly ignorant of the language of "*the lost tribes of Israel*," as an antiquarian gentleman in camp offered to prove the Coles to be, *from their eating pork and drinking wine!* So I was obliged to gratify my curiosity by means of my eyes alone. —But where am I?

We were by this time heartily tired of war's alarms, and the heat in tents most oppressive; so my readers will easily believe that we hailed with three cheers the order for breaking up the force, which arrived on the 25th April. On the 26th the officers of the 3d Light Cavalry gave a farewell dinner in their mess tent; but it is not my province to mention how often we "routed all our foes, how often slew our slain." Suffice it, that the dawn of the 27th found the Dinapore and Benares detachments some miles on their homeward route, while on the 29th the remainder of the force marched towards Burka Ghur, in Chota Nagpore.

At this post the final separation took place. A wing of the 50th marched on the 2d May towards Barrackpore. The adventures they met with on their march will subsequently be noticed.

The left wing of the 50th N. I. and the Ramghur Battalion, after being detained at Burka Ghur a month, reached safely early in June; the station of Hazareebaugh, from whence they were destined again to move in a few months, for the suppression of another similar insurrection. And now, gentle readers, fare you well. The first part of my task is completed. To those of my brother officers who have so kindly furnished me with the information of the proceedings of the various columns of the Nagpore force, I return my sincere thanks. I cannot but acknowledge also how much I am indebted to the kindness of the gentleman who furnished me with the map which accompanies these pages; and who has been good enough to promise that the sketch of the Burrabhoom campaign shall not be without a similar accompaniment. To these, and all the officers who accompanied the troops during this campaign, I wish good health and speedy promotion, and trust that ere long I too may have the luck to be above subscribing myself

A SUBALTERN.

NOTE.—It was my intention to have included the operations of Colonel Hawtrey's force in Palamau, but want of information regarding its movements precluded the possibility of my doing so.—AUTHOR.

HORSE AND FOOT ARTILLERY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EAST INDIAN UNITED SERVICE JOURNAL.

SIR,—It was with great pleasure, and happy anticipations that I viewed the appearance of the 1st No. of our *United Service Journal*. Worthy indeed would the Indian Army be of oppression and degradation, if it came not forward with all its talent and influence to support a Journal dedicated to its service,—a publication in which can be fearlessly proclaimed its unredressed wrongs, and justice demanded at the hands of its oppressors. In this view alone, such a work at the present time is a great desideratum, but its value is greatly enhanced when it is recollected that, it is the only channel in which theoretical information can be conveyed, and the past achievements of its soldiers exhibited to form the judgment and stimulate the ardour of its youthful aspirants after glory. Surely correspondents cannot be wanting when so wide a field is open to observation; and it is sincerely to be hoped, that those whose intellectual qualifications have been matured by extensive experience will, through the medium of this organ of our body, communicate the result of this combination for the benefit of their brother soldiers. Let the experienced and intelligent observant of each branch afford his quota, and we shall not fail ere long to perceive a progressive information as highly creditable and beneficial to the Army. It is under the influence of such feelings, and with an earnest desire for the benefit of the Artillery, that I submit a few hints well adapted, if acted upon, to beget a spirit of intelligent observation and enquiry among its officers. In the greater frequency of practice, the Indian Artilleryman possesses a privilege of no small value over his British comrade,—a privilege which, if measures were adopted to ensure its proper application, is pregnant with the most beneficial results. Annually indeed he encamps for two months with a view to obtain experience and skill, but in reality little more is done than the expenditure of powder. Towards the noon of each day he receives a memorandum containing directions about the nature of the charge, the length of fuze, and the description of missile, when he proceeds to the magazine to superintend the weighing of the charge and adaptation of the fuze to the range;—in the evening he lays his mortars or points his gun, and after four rounds finishes the evening practice,—a miniature resemblance of the annual one. Now, Mr. Editor, it must be evident to any one, that such a mode of operation, coupled with the use of powder considerably below proof and erroneous instruments, is of no service whatever in forming the Artilleryman. Such might do for the Golundauz, if the opinion were still in vogue that the avenues of knowledge are to be closed to him; but for a young Officer or non-commissioned Officer of Artillery, who have often independent charges, where recourse must be had to former experience, such a plan is fraught with any thing beside utility. Instead of such mechanical operation, how beneficial would it be were the Subaltern informed of the extent of range, and desired to settle the charge, and deter-

mine the elevation, and length of fuze, forwarding his report after the weekly practice to the commanding officer. This would excite an interest; he would feel a proper pride in exhibiting a precision of judgment and steadiness of operation, and would store up his memorandums for future use; he would be prepared at any moment for an independent charge, and be really what he is supposed to be,—a good practical Artilleryman. To ensure some degree of dependence on the instrument, it would be adviseable that with every camp there should be a reserve quadrant to rectify the ones in use, and annually before each practice season a committee should be held, to ascertain the extent of difference in each, and see it marked on some conspicuous part of it. To a battery of 10 or 12 pieces, there are seldom more than four or five quadrants, and the knowledge that the same one is seldom obtainable *each round*, will enable a person to judge of the expediency of keeping a good one in reserve. The difference between the men of the Horse and Foot Artillery must be perceptible to the most cursory observer. Among the former there is a self-respect evident which you look in vain for among the latter, and this arises in a great measure from the nature of the materials with which each has to work. The Horse Artilleryman prides himself in the celerity and precision of his movement when at exercises; and this feeling is not confined to the parade or exercising ground, he carries the knowledge of it with him wherever he goes, and manifest it in a soldier-like deportment and appearance. But the Foot Artilleryman grows apathetic: the clumsy and unwieldy bullock defies the attempt at precision. As for celerity, it is incapable of any movement much beyond the double quick of the Infantry. The soldier grows indifferent, the reverse on the pivot is transformed into a right about in a space of 6 or 7 yards; the perfect alignment in the battery for actions is converted in a zig zag; and the soldier on the field day instead of looking up with the consciousness of perfectness in military movements, laughs in silent disgust at the obstacles to his efficiency. The inutility of such lazy, stubborn animals as bullocks to draw field pieces, will doubtless be some day evidenced when the slaughtered Artilleryman lies before his gun, from the utter impossibility of getting it into action. If the expence attending the substitution of horses in the place be considered, let it be, when the efficiency, nay, utility of the one is compared with that of the other. If the allowance for the keep of a charger is an object of importance, let it be reduced from 60 to 30 or 40; but whatever be the result let not the efficiency of a most useful branch of the Army be destroyed,—the feeling of the gunners depressed, by the rigid economy of an incalculating government. In the earnest hope that your labours may be duly appreciated, and the expression of my hope that every aid will be given to your undertaking

I remain,

A BRASS THREE POUNDER.

Cawnpore.

SKETCHES AND TALES OF THE INDIAN ARMY.—No. 2.

THE MUD FORT.

The weather was beginning to be insupportably hot, and canvas anything but agreeable. The face of the Major, commanding the — Regiment of Native Infantry, was daily growing blacker—literally blacker; much from the effect of exposure to the sun, and from an overflowing of bile, the result of continued neglect to certain warnings and sure tokens of disordered health, which the anxious old soldier was, at this juncture, too busy to attend to. But still much of it arose, too, from the perpetual Erebus-looking frown, which protracted ill-humour, vexation, and perplexity, now contrived to fix, as it were, on his marked and weather-beaten countenance. Woe to the unfortunate wight on the rear-guard who by this time might chance to steal into camp before the last creaking hackery of the baggage-train. It was ten to one if the old Major, who had an eye on every thing, did not stalk forth from his double-poled tent to greet him with something like the following.

“Well Mr. Crump, were you not officer of the day yesterday?”

“Yes, Major,” would reply the innocent.

“And why the Devil, Sir, do you come into camp before the rest of the baggage? May I beg the favor of your betaking yourself to your post again; and if you enter this ground before the last hackery, you shall hear a little more on the subject.”

“The young dog,” would the Major mutter to himself, as he lifted again the cheek of his tent, and retired under shelter to his hookah—“I have no notion of his creeping in to breakfast, and my beer left to boil on the road-way for these three hours to come!”

It was no wonder, after all, that the Major was a little out of humour.—He had been ordered out, with his whole corps from Benares, just at the end of March; sent away through Azimghur to the Oude territories, and peremptorily desired, long after the hot-winds had set in, to aid his most excellent Lucknow Majesty’s aumil, or tuhseeldar, or some such respectable native functionary, in enforcing the payment of certain stray lacs of rupees, said to be due by refractory zumeendars to the royal treasury. Now the old Major not only hated being away from his snug well-tatted bungalow near the nullah, at Secrole, at this peculiar season of the year; but he, moreover, detested, as cordially as any officer of sepoy in the whole army, this deputation of himself and regiment, at the beck and nod of a rascally aumil, to support whole gangs of tax-gathering harpies, and punish poor wretches of zumeendars, who were often roused into rebellion only under the grinding extortion of the court,—men, in fact, who were really honest

fine fellows in thus holding out as long as they could against not a little of robbery and oppression.

On one or two occasions, in spite of external ill-humour, old Jemmy Costive, or Caustic,—for he was indiscriminately called either, in the usual happy exchange by the juniors of our army of all real patronimies of their seniors for certain more euphonious and approved soubriquets :—in spite of ill humour, I repeat, our good Major had once or twice amicably insured the adjustment of sundry claims, brought forward by the aumil, and indicted the landholders to pay something in composition and part clearance of their *kist*. He declared it gave him little pleasure to knock mud walls about the ears of the injured, by way, too, of redressing their injuries :—but if he could only get the aumil himself into a snug little mud-walled edifice, with a few score of his rascally followers and rabble of military about him, he would shew him a little ball-practice, with an episode, *par parenthese*, of assault and escalade; and he would vouch for it, “his Lucknow Majesty’s aumil would never bring out another Company’s regiment a tax-gathering again in the hot winds !”

It was, however, growing near the middle of the month of May, and old Caustic’s patience was nearly expended,—such a dance had the aumil led him—when, after a long day’s, or rather night’s march, on approaching one of the circuitous wanderings of the river Gograh, so peculiar to that part of the country, the detachment at length came upon a *regular* MUD FORT, not very far from the river itself. The aumil here had a long account of revenue to settle with the killedar, who was a powerful proprietor of the surrounding country, and a determined and constant defaulter to his liege lord of Lucknow. But it happened also, very oddly, that our good Major had a little bit of an account of his own to settle with him. Strange to say, some of the Major’s pale ale, or other such valuables (we have already seen the care he bestowed on these things) had been seized on the river at this very mud fort, a few years ago, when the regiment was stationed in the north of Oude, and Major Caustic expected, via the Gograh, his annual supply of rich edibles, &c. from the esteemed hand of Mr. Havell, of Diggah. He was anxiously awaiting their arrival, when he learned that the very identical zumeendar who now had the honor to be opposed to him, had seized the entire cargo, and, what was far worse, had recklessly destroyed the same the moment he found out the hams, wiues, condiments, and other contaminations contained in the various packages of his plunder. This was a never-to-be-forgotten offence in the list of the Major’s worldly sufferings and indignities.

But the offender was at length before him—within his very grasp,—at this juncture too, of accumulated ill-humour, collected bile, and burning-like annoyance ! Moreover, it really appeared there was, in this case, some good

cause of complaint on the part of the Lucknow authorities : the man was a professed rebel and marauder. So the Major very conscientiously mingled together his public and private sense of injuries. There were before him, in the fevered judgment-hall of his feelings, (the thermometer at exactly 104° Farht.) first of all, his old grievances, then his present exposure in the hot winds, then his military zeal, and, finally, his aspirations after a C-B-ship—all exciting him into a virtuous indignation against the luckless killedar. Hence arose a tolerably decided and satisfactorily founded resolution in his own mind to batter the mud walls about the devoted heads of the rebel, and, as he called them, his pestilent little garrison.

He sent a summons immediately, in which as much of the above as was necessary to announce, was rendered into very passable Persian, by the aid of the amil and the young interpreter and quarter-master of the regiment. But the reply must have been anything but soothing or satisfactory ; for the whole of that morning the Major was shut up in his tent, with the Adjutant and Interpreter just mentioned. All in the camp began pretty well to understand that the fort now before them was to be carried forthwith ; and it was further whispered that the Major was determined to make a spirited example of this chieftain, in order to intimidate others, and lessen the chance of his being much longer detained out on this most detestable duty.

Towards the evening of the eventful day just described, a group of European officers were observed clustered together and lounging about in front of the tents of our little detachment. The fort was within half a mile of them, rising conspicuously and menacingly somewhat to their left. Immediately in front was a bold ravine, which commenced close to the extreme left of their line of encampment, and then ran brokenly on before it, till it reached the eastern face of the fort, passing close to the base of the wall itself, and forming a deep ditch and defence along that side of the little fortification. On quitting the fort, the ravine went off directly to the river,—the river itself at this point slanting inwards in a north-westerly direction, so as to run almost close to the north or rear of the fort, afforded, in consequence of its broken banks, irregular ravines, and low jungle, a complete protection on this side also. On the western face was a dense jungle, creeping up nearly to the wall—of a description certainly to afford cover to an assailing party in that direction, but the ground was too broken to admit of proper formation of troops, except at one spot, where there were some scattered huts—a petty deserted bazar, from which ran an approach to a small gateway and diminutive wicket, close under the south-west bastion. The main entrance itself to the fort was, however, in the centre of the south curtain of the wall, almost in front of the group of officers, who, from a short distance, were thus forming an estimate of the strength of the works. This face was clearly the only approachable part of the whole, unless we except the smaller gateway and wicket to the left, and which seemed to

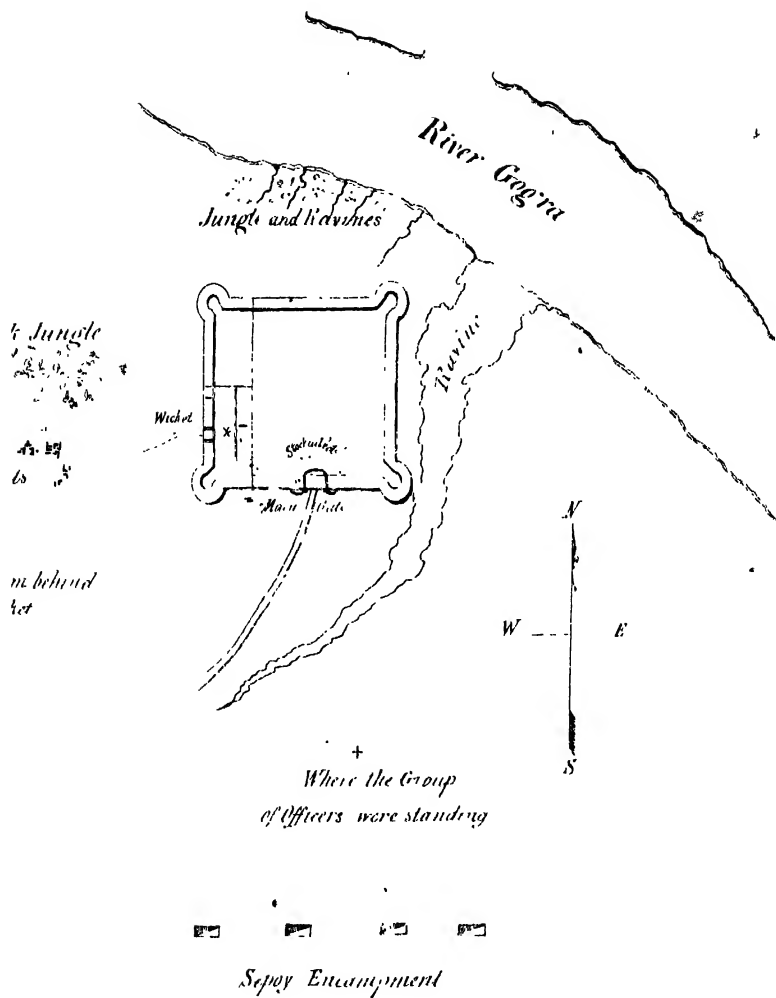
communicate only with a separate and distinct angle of the fort, used probably for the *zenanah*, or personal residence of the killedar. The fort itself was a simple mud-built quadrangle, with bastions at each angle. Each face might be about 150 or 180 feet, and the general height of the curtain, which, though in tolerable repair, was anything but regular, might be about 30 feet. The walls were thick, with a breast-work on them of 4 or 5 feet, behind, which might be seen numbers of the garrison leaning on the parapets and watching the sepoy camp before them. They were stout-looking *juwans* armed to the teeth; and on the bastions could be made out a few *glujals* and wall-pieces on swivels, carrying about 12 or 20 ounce balls.

The position occupied by the group of English officers, which was one of the occasional slight eminences formed by the broken banks of the river, gave them a pretty correct view of the entire fort and its defences, and of the country in its vicinity. The sun was fast sinking over the jungle to the left, but its rays were still gleaming on the upper portion of the works, and glancing fitfully upon the arms of the men crowded along the walls. The river to the right was just sinking into shade, though there were a few scanty spots still on the opposite side, where the light still lingered, and which the lengthened shadows, now flung far by the fort itself and high banks, had not yet reached. On these, occasionally, were seen gliding past the light skiffs of the fishermen, for the first time for many years, pursuing their quiet course, unchallenged and unimpeded by a ready plunderer or claimant of toll, from among the busy followers of the killedar.

Far behind the whole scene, and above the misty and grey horizon, rose magnificently amidst the very clouds, (and, indeed, cloud-like themselves, distinguishable only by the frequent bright tints, sharp and crisp as a painter could describe them, scattered over their wavy eminences,) the majestic heights of the snowy Himalaya. They were seldom visible at this season of the year; but a slight storm and north-wester of the preceding evening had cleared away the usual sullen haziness of the atmosphere, and added much to the present distinctness and beauty of the scene.

"Well, Crump, my boy—that's a brave sketch you're making;" said an Artillery Sub, looking over the shoulder of the Ensign,—“clap in a few more pencil dashes on the walls, for spears 'fierce bristling.' You're not half warlike enough.—Why, if I were sketching for my posterity a fort, where I was to have a broken head the next morning, I'd leave a relic fit to frighten folks. Your fort is as bland and as peaceful as one of William Prinsep's new drops at the Chowringhee!"

"I'm making it as I found it," answered Crump, interrupted in his sketch, and not half liking the idea of the broken head for the ensuing morning.



"Oh stop—don't put it up yet," cried the other, "stay for the old Major. Here he comes with a spy-glass, and you may soon put him in, in gaunt prominence, on the foreground. He'll serve to frighten folks with that black phiz of his, if the fort won't."

"Well, gentlemen," said the Commandant, approaching them, "are you all ready to take the stings out of that hornet's nest to-morrow?"

"You intend to try it to-morrow, Major?" observed a hoary respectable-looking Captain of the group.

"Indeed, do I," returned the Major. "The Adjutant will have the orderly book ready for you all, in a few moments; and it is odd if we do not thin those clustering rascals before they are a day older. Attend now," said the old gentleman, waving his hand so as to draw his hearers in a circle around him, "I'll tell you how we are to manage it. You'll understand my plans the better for a little *viva voce* explanation,—with the fort, too, before us."

"You, Captain Oldboy, will lead the right wing on to the main-gate. You see the approach to it.—Stand here, and you can make out that the ground sinks and descends just before the gate itself. You'll draw out your men within easy musket reach of the fort, so as to clear the walls of these vagabonds; while Mr. Topaz with his artillerymen runs his gun right at the *durwazu*. You'll back him bravely I know; and if the gate is to be forced, he is the man to shiver it; and you will then immediately close in and push your grenadiers at the fellows. The Light Bobs we'll have on the crest of the ravine to the right here, to pepper away as they shew themselves;—and the other gun we will station at the huts to the left, and see if we can catch an opportunity to try its metal on the little western gate, in the rear of yonder bastion.—Captain Rust and Ensign Rivers will be there with their company to support the 6-pounder and take advantage of its movements. And now, 'gentlemen,' added the Commanding Officer—the tone of his voice here suddenly growing deeper, and *harsher* if possible—"you will bear in mind that our object is to make a serious example of this killedar. 'Tis the only way to bring our present service to a conclusion. If they stand an obstinate assault"—his tone becoming still deeper, and his words slower, and, as the Artillery Sub Topaz afterwards declared, his whole physiognomy shewing blacker and blacker—"You'll do your duty," said he, with one of those significant bendings of the brow which told plainer than a hundred tongues the doom of the poor devils in the mud walls before them.

"The Nawaub's troops?"—enquired Captain Oldboy.

"Will be posted to the right, and rear of the fort, along the river; and also thrown into yonder jungle to the left, to cut off every soul that would escape us."

There was a pause for a few moments. No one seemed inclined to make farther remarks; and the sun at this moment went down redly and sullenly, for the last time, it appeared, on many of the deluded followers of the kileedar; and perhaps the last also for not a few of those preparing to give effect to the death-warrant thus issued against two or three hundred^{men}—but I will not call them unoffending—fellow creatures.

At the mess-tent during the evening nothing particular occurred. One or two of the youngsters of the regiment endeavoured, as might be perceived, to be more noisy and facetious than usual, but their attempts were generally abortive. The older hands got, for a time, into grave, but seemingly unexciting, conversation:—at last a chance observation led them to home and to early recollections of their native country.—It was strange, but at that moment all at the table became exclusively interested in this topic, and there was an affectionate tone of natural feeling pervading the whole of the conversation,—even from ancient Oldboy, the hoary-headed captain, a cadet of the last century, down to the very *griffin* of the party, young Ensign Rivers. The same thing has not been unprecedented elsewhere on other occasions of like approaching exertion and danger;—as if the heart, ere it nerved itself for deeds of daring energy, loved to repose awhile amid its native recollections, and the soothing of the earlier sympathies of our nature, like the calm stillness that reigns around ere the rousing of the storm blast, or the more insidious languor in the human frame itself, that precedes often the busy raging of the too fatal fever.

All had retired to rest. Lieut. Topaz, of the Artillery, was sleeping in his dooly-cot on one side of a single-poled tent, and Ensign Crump, his chum for the time being, was in a deep slumber on his camp charpoy on the other side of the tent pole. It was a little past midnight, when Topaz was awakened by a light coming in at the door-way, and immediately afterwards the *cheek* was raised, and Ensign Rivers, a fine young lad of the regiment, entered the tent with a lantern in his hand.

"Hullo!" growled forth Topaz—"what brings you here at this time of night, Master Boots?"—for so the Ensign was designated in the regiment, as the last comer into its ranks.

The youth hesitated and stammered, as if doubtful how to introduce his present purpose. "Can't you speak, man?" continued Topaz, barely awake, and not over-pleased with the light flaring in his eyes.

"I came," faltered out the Ensign, "to ask you and Crump to be witnesses to a paper now with me. It requires three signatures: the Adjutant has given me his, and I now want yours and your chum's."

"You might as well have got it two hours ago, my young gent," said the Artilleryman, "and I should have gone on better with my first sleep. But come," he added, after one or two outstretchings of his arms, and getting better humoured in his tone, "let us have your paper;—there is ink in that desk on the table. What paper is it, Rivers?"

"Lord! it an't time yet," muttered Crump, sitting up in his bed, and awakened by the voices in the tent.

The boy Rivers hesitated at first, the more as Crump was awakened, to answer the question of Topaz, but soon spreading the document out, a sheet of foolscap paper, carefully written down on one side, before the Lieutenant—"It's only my will," he replied. "I have been told in an Europe letter from my uncle, received some weeks ago, to prepare it, and to be careful to get three signatures to attest the document; but I put it off from day to day, until at mess this night it occurred to me how cruelly remiss I had been——"

"There it is,—my sign manual then," interrupted the Lieutenant—"Tom Topaz"; and he must be a clever fellow who makes out what my pothooks are intended for."

"Oh but you must give your rank and signature in full," observed Rivers. "My uncle——"

"D—n your uncle. I should like him to be roused out after 12 o'clock to attest deeds at full length, as if figuring away at the end of a monthly muster roll. I say, Crump, now for your part of the play," exclaimed he, throwing over the ink-filled pen on the sheet of Ensign Crump's bedding.

The Ensign by this time was wide awake, and had gathered from the little that had passed, what was required of him. He signed the will without a word, and immediately turned himself on his pillow, and with his back to the light, tried to compose himself again to the sleep from which he had been so unwillingly disturbed.

Rivers sat down on the bed-side by Topaz. He was silent for a few minutes,—but when the hard breathing of his brother Ensign told him that Crump was in a happy state of disregard of all mundane matters—"I'll tell you what this paper is, good Topaz," said he; "you may have heard that I have a little landed and other property at home, which is at my disposal

at the age of eighteen. I was eighteen three months ago, and now I have made it over to my mother for life, in this deed, which will answer either for that purpose at any rate, or as my last testament, in case of accident to-morrow. I was very culpable, Topaz, in neglecting the thing 'till now."

Topaz said nothing; his eye was resting kindly on the face of the youth. Rivers saw it, and his heart responded to the feeling. All at once he abruptly, but in a low tone, exclaimed—"My dear Topaz, will you promise not to laugh at me. I am not afraid of to-morrow—indeed no—but there is something I would fain say to you before that hour approaches. You go home on furlough next year, don't you, Topaz?"

"Yes, please the pigs, my little boots," said the Lieutenant.

"Well then promise me one thing—one thing, Topaz?"

"What is it, man?"

"It is not much," continued the other. "Will you go to my poor mother, Topaz, at Bath—if I———" he paused.

"Hop the twig to-morrow," interjected the other; "why, I am as likely as yourself, my fine fellow, to do that comfortable thing, and perhaps more so."

"Nay but promise me. And will you—after to-morrow—remember that in a secret draw in the upper part of my writing desk is a locket, a small miniature locket, with hair behind it. I wish you to take it to a"—there was no little hesitation in the youngster's manner—"to a young lady who is staying with my mother—her niece"——

"And your cousin, eh?" significantly interrupted the Lieutenant.

"Yes, my consin: her name is Clara Rivers. Will you give her the locket and say I begged you to take it, and to add, that I—that——"

"You still love her dearly. Rivers, is this it?" said Topaz, in a kindlier tone than his rough voice usually assumed. "Well, my dear lad, suppose I promise."——

"Then," exclaimed the other, "you will indeed do me a brother's kindness. God bless you, Topaz—thank you, thank you." And without a word more he gave the huge hand of his companion a confiding and affectionate pressure, and gently retreated to his own little routee.

The bugle sounded the reveillee in the morning at the usual hour, as if nothing extraordinary were in agitation, and the drum-call in due time assembled the men of the detachment on parade. The extra ammunition had been served out the preceding evening, the different columns and divisions for the attack accurately told off, and little remained in the morning but

for the men to fall in and await the order to advance. The two pieces of artillery, with their tumbrils and full equipments, were in the front; the European privates grouped beside them, their necks uncovered and collars thrown back, their white cotton jackets half unbuttoned, and a few of them with their trowsers tucked up, and their ungartered well proportioned limbs forming a pretty strong contrast with the attenuated and curved supporters of the lascars and bullock-drivers beside them. The Artillery men were in high spirits, laughing and jesting with each other, and eager for the *spree*, as they called it. Our countrymen, in all parts of the world, are seldom backward on an occasion of the kind; and in various of the assaults to which they were led in the Peninsula, they betrayed a fearlessness and reckless disregard of opposing danger—more than to match the brightest records of chivalrous devotion handed down to us from the olden ages. But in India, their bearing, under such circumstances, has frequently shown itself in a wild, more daring and ungovernable rushing at the worst—a passionate desire to grapple with it in utter disregard of *all* human opposition. As if our countrymen, in their contempt of the natives, and in their believing them to be less than human, wished to exhibit themselves, to the Asiatics, as something more:—and as “*nec Deus intersit*,” in these degenerate, unpoetic days in our earthly broils and battles, they are content to enact in India, for the time being, the desperate dramatis personæ of devils incarnate. Walled in, and cooped together in a barrack; checked there, and controuled at times,—next petted, and coarsely pampered, their spirits and seeming strength sinking beneath the climate, while their passions and most excitable energies are the more irritated and hourly roused as their moral ones are deteriorating and decaying;—loose these poor brave fellows from their years of confinement, and set them at the work for which they were designed, and are panting if only to give them release from barrack discipline and confinement,—and at once, like the bull dog, fairly slipped at his victim, they dash at him with an instinctive fierceness and alacrity, incredible save to those who have witnessed their almost fiend-like super-human efforts. Much may be attributed to their always having the post of honor among their native fellow soldiers, and to the feeling that it would be a stigma upon them to do no more than others under these inspiring distinctions. Whatever the cause, one thing is certain,—that, whatever effect the climate may have on the constitution and power of the European soldier,—however it leave his outward appearance emaciated and unnerved,—still there is a soul of vivacious unconquerable superiority in the white man which no exile nor sickness can quench! Like the steel of his own daring weapons, the heat of the furnace may have blackened and defaced, nay reduced, the iron mass that originally gave it; yet it hath so steeled and tempered the residue, that though it bend beneath the blow it would inflict, it still cuts deeper and fiercer for its ordeal.

To the right was now stationed the Light Company : on an order from the Major, it filed off to the crest of the ravine, and extending its files there awaited the order for further operations.

On the left was posted Captain Rust's Company and our young friend Ensign Rivers, and at the same time with the movement of the Light Company, it proceeded to the huts to the westward and occupied a position under cover of them before the little *zenanah* wicket we have before mentioned. The gun did not accompany it, but for the present was to remain with its companion to cover it while they were running it down to the main gate in the front face. Captain Oldboy with four companies, was steadily in line in front of the encampment, when the Major observing that the two companies on the flanks had taken up their necessary positions, and hearing from the rear of the fort a bugle call intended to apprise him, as concerted, that His Majesty of Oude's troops had arranged themselves along the western jungle, and on the river behind the rear face of the fort, he rode up to the Captain and told him to put his men in motion. He did the same to Lieutenant Topaz with the guns. There was no attempt at speechifying ; he just pointed to the Fort and said to the Artillery men—"My lads, you'll do your duty;" and then turning round to the Sepoys, exclaimed in Hindoo-stanee—"Now shew what the old *juwan-ka-puttan* is made of," (calling it by its own familiar soubriquet,) "and let us teach these Rajcoomar rascals what the Company's Sepahees can do!" The order was given. By a simple evolution the late line was converted momentarily into a dense column, and at once the division, guns and all, leaving only about one hundred and fifty men under arms to act as a reserve, and remain in the camp, marched on briskly, detouring a little to the left, to avoid the head of the ravine in front and gain the road at once leading on to the gate. There was an evident bustle now and crowding on the southern wall of the fort,—the smoke of the numerous lighted matches was slowly rising in the morning air from the crest of the parapet, and the thick masses of the garrison were plainly watching these movements in breathless anticipation, but delaying their fire, and, as if intentionally, determined not to strike the first blow. "I hope the chaps will continue in this mind, Topaz," said the Major to the Lieutenant with the leading gun, and by whose side he was riding, as they now got within easy matchlock reach. "If they will only be good-natured enough to allow the muzzle of your gun to touch their gate timber before they open a fire on us, I think the first bark of your little friend there will save them much trouble, by making something else open for us."

"See they are waving us back, Major," said Topaz.

"Let them signalise as much as they please. It must be somewhat more," said the Major, making a mock *salam*, in reply to the numerous arms waving for him to retire, "that must send us now methinks to the right about."

"Be ready to deploy, Captain Oldboy," called out the Major, looking back at the advancing sepoy column.

"We are all ready, Sir."

Still they advanced, and there was evidently much stir on the fort walls. The endeavours of some one in authority were distinctly observed,—keeping quiet a few of the garrison who were pointing their pieces and anxious to commence firing. At length it appeared that the more eager and fiery among them carried the day, for in spite of prohibition, a few shots fell smartly among the leading files, and in a moment or two the whole front of the fort was peppering away in the unbroken *urrring* sort of sound of a well-sustained file-fire. The Major's horse was the first to feel the effect: a ball struck it on the mane and wounded the upper part of the neck. It reared immediately, and the good old man was fain to dismount and send his charger away to the rear, to the no small comfort and felicitation of the syce, who affected not this close quarter style of operations. They were by this time little more than sixty paces from the gate. The order was given for the sepoys to deploy, which they did admirably, and in less than a minute they were in line in favorable positions, and blazing away in good set style; and not a little silencing the late heavy fire of the gentry on the walls. The second gun behind that of Topaz was now promptly placed in the centre of the line, and quick as lightning, its flashes were darting from it, and grape, cannister, and shrapnell were pouring from its mouth, to the tune of some three or four rounds of each, while the leading six-pounder, admirably conducted by Topaz, and under cover of the fire, was fairly run into the commencement of the descent immediately leading to the gate. Here an unexpected obstacle opposed itself:—a deep ditch had been dug across the path, the preceding evening, nearly five feet wide, proportionably deep, and the opposite part of it well *frised* with pointed stakes. The fire of the fort was redoubled at the moment:—three of the Europeans were tumbled over, and the garrison shouted in exultation! Not a moment was to be lost. The Major from the line saw the pause, and sent a company down to support the gun, but Topaz by this time had ordered the disengagement of some spare planks from the tumbril behind, and, throwing them across the ditch, soon forced the gun with their aid beyond the obstruction, and getting into the descent, speedily ran it down the gate. While in that situation close under the wall, he was perfectly safe for the time from the efforts of the garrison. All this, however, had not occurred, until four more of the artillerymen, and at least a dozen of the lascars and covering sepoys had been added to the poor fellows who were stretched on the earth struggling in agony in front of the little ditch in the pathway. There were still hands enough to work the gun in its present snug situation, and baag went its smothered and suppressed report against the timbers of the entrance. From the position of the troops nothing could be seen but a mass of dense white smoke now enveloping the gateway;—loud pealed another discharge, the louder always for

being confined and straitened in its operation. A third report—the Grenadiers were already in columns of sub-divisions ready to bound forward. A fourth peal from the gun, and a crash, and a loud hurra and shout from the party working it! The sepoy dashed on, heedless of the tenfold increased angry fire of the now desperate combatants on the walls! All seemed our own, but the troops had a little yet to get over, ere they could profit by the gateway being battered and burst open. The garrison had not only implanted huge trunks of trees in the earth behind the planking of the gates, but had stockaded the whole, in rear of the entrance, so that a new difficulty arose, and the few who crept in through the splintered opening were fain to withdraw again from the heavy fire kept by fellows on *muchauws* along the stockading, and wait the coming up of bamboo ladders from the rear.

In the mean time the little detachment to the left had boldly left its covert of the huts, and the moment the second gun could be spared from its office of protecting and covering the first advance of the other, they had moved it to the westward, and run it to the small wicket there described, and applying the muzzle and plank to it, the second discharge laid open the wicket, but the *wicket* only, not larger than the same small low description of durwan's entrance observable in the gates of our fashionable Calcutta edifices. The gun was here under a serjeant, and the whole by this time commanded only by young Rivers, for his Captain had been shot through the shoulder in the advance to the wall. The men from the bastion were firing down sharply on the clustering group of assailants gathering around the wicket. Rivers placed a division to the left to keep down their fire for a few moments, while his men one by one could creep into the scanty opening made for them. An Artillery-man led the way: He was knocked over the instant he entered. The Serjeant followed, and was served the precise same. A Sepoy, who bent down and went after him, bit the dust, and another and another met the same fate. The space was cleared now between Rivers and the wicket,—he had been encouraging the entrance of these gallant, almost victimised, fellows,—he felt ashamed to call more forward—and while, with a stout and yet truly foreboding heart, he prepared to stoop for his own admission though this seeming certain passage to death, he called out to the Subadar near him to bring in after him the men as quickly and instantaneously as possible. He bent down,—he placed his head and foot at the same moment within the entrance—and a thick pattering of shots whizzed hail-like about him. He was untouched! He sprang in with an exulting cry, and wave of his sabre—but the next instant saw him staggering and falling to the earth—a ball had passed through his thigh, and another had injured his other limb below the knee. A loud shout and fierce cries were heard at this juncture from the other part of attack. They had cleared the obstacle it was evident, and the fire immediately at hand ceased for a brief space. Men poured in at this momentary pause though the

wicket,—and there before them, on a raised platform or *muchaun*, directly in front of the entrance, was the cause of the late slaughter,—an old man and half a dozen or more of the garrison on the platform, while others beneath were handing them loaded matchlocks. At the entrance of the sepoy's the companions of the aged combatant endeavoured to escape by a loose plank connecting the *muchaun* with an open window of a pukka building behind it. The assailants observed their escape, and rushing forward, soon disposed of the few below the platform, and with the halberds of the Havildars displaced the loose plank, which had served the fugitives for a bridge of present safety. The old man still remained on the eminence, and taking up coolly one by one the matchlocks which had been left behind, was aiming such as he found loaded, with fatal precision on the Sepoys below him. ‘*Mar*’—‘*mar*, *mar*!’” exclaimed the infuriated assailants. “*Aglugou*,” cried an ancient Naick, and at once firing some straw with one of their muskets, they applied it to the combustible and frail materials forming the scaffolding in which the murderous old Killedar (for such he was) was himself tyger-like at bay, still dealing wounds and death around him. The sepoy's were almost to a man, too hurried and excited to load their own pieces,—all were pressing forward as the fire quickly ascended the uprights of the platform, to secure, and impinge their victim on their bayonets immediately his fast-failing tenement and retreat were brought to the earth. The fire curled up around the very person of the poor old devoted rebel—his white beard was singing in the flame;—at once, seizing a sword, he sprang downward on a small opening among his destroyers, where fewer bayonets seemed to bristle beneath him. It was from an height of fifteen feet:—no wonder he lighted not upon his feet, and before he could regain them, at least half a dozen bayonets were pinning him fiercely to the earth. In vain he struggled or wounded those nearest him.—The Major who entered the wicket at that fearful moment (having silenced all opposition at the main-gate) saw his arch-enemy here writhing beneath the steel of his many opponents. One of them was removing his bayonet for the purpose of imbedding it again more effectually in some more vital part, but the weapon was too firmly fixed; it would not quit its hold. The soldier had placed his foot against his victim, at that moment engaged with some other tormentor, to assist in forcing out the steel. The Major shrieked out to him to desist;—the bleeding Ensign Rivers, too, was dragging himself forward on the earth like a wounded snake, to endeavour, if possible, to save, or rather to protect the last moments of the Killedar,—but the sepoy had now loosened his musket by disengaging it from the bayonet, which he left buried in the breast of the struggling wretch, and was savagely reversing his firelock to beat in the brow of his victim, when the old Major rushed forward, and with his aged yet nervous hand and sword-hilt, struck down the sepoy to the dust. The Killedar saw the merciful act,—his eye caught, too, the approach, under a similar kindly intention, of the wounded Ensign. His sword fell from his grasp—his eye, late glaring with the ire of a stricken tiger,—his brow, late speaking

but death, and dark defiance, suddenly sank into the soft beseeching of gratefulness, and of betokened kindness and feeling. His hand pointed to the open lattice of the pukha *zenanah* above, and his lips faltered the faint beseeching prayer '*buchao*'—save my family. He heard the brief—"I will, I will" of his enemy,—and at once an almost happy and benign smile lightened up the features of the dying man. He lifted his hand as if to *salaam* his thanks; but the hand itself sank in the motion undirected, unbidden and lifeless on his brow, for his spirit at that moment had parted for ever!*

HINTS FOR THE STUDY OF MILITARY LAW IN ITS EARLIER STAGES.

MY DEAR ———, —I am much pleased at your proposal, to devote some of your spare time to the acquirement of a knowledge of Military Law : for, although your labour may not be rewarded by your admittance into the Department of the Judge Advocate General, it cannot be lost in making yourself acquainted with the practice of Courts-Martial, before which the character, the bread, the liberty and even the life of a fellow-soldier are so frequently at stake. Situate as you are, books are not easily procurable without great expense. But, in the office of the Adjutant of your Regiment you will always find the Articles of War for the Company's Troops, and in the same office, or in that of the Quarter-Master, the Articles for the native portion of the Army. Always bear in mind that there are distinct Articles of War in force for the different kinds of Troops of which the Indian Army is composed. 1st. His Majesty's Forces in India have their own Mutiny Act, passed every year by Parliament, and Articles of War, made by the King in conformity with that Act.—2ndly. The European Troops in the Company's Service, viz. the Horse and Foot Artillery, European Regiment, Serjeants of all kinds, Conductors, Christian Drummers, &c., attached to Regiments or Departments, are liable to the Mutiny Act in force for the time being for the Company's Troops and the Articles of War made by the King in conformity with it. We have had no Mutiny Act passed for a long time for the Company's European Troops; the one now in force is the 4th of George 4th, chapter 81, passed by the Legislature in 1823.—3rdly. The Native Troops are governed by Regulations made by the Government in this country, who are authorized, by the present and former Mutiny Acts,

* We are not quite satisfied with our Military contributor, for here closing the tale. But we are somewhat in the secret :—and are happy to be able to add, in farther elucidation of these events, which may not be the less interesting for being mainly founded on fact, that the family of the old Killeedar were protected, that Ensign Crump did not in the affray get the broken head so pleasantly anticipated for him by Lieut. Topaz, but that Ensign Rivers' wounds were found so slow to heal, that he was sent the following year to England, where he completely recovered. He married his cousin Clara, and what is still better, succeeded to considerable property; resigned the service, and is now enjoying himself in his native county of Somersetshire, and is as happy, he writes word to his old Corps, as his best friends could wish him.

to establish rules for the Native soldiery : the Rules or Articles of War so established are those you will find in the Quarter-Master's Office, adopted from the King's Articles of War, in force under the Act 27th, George 2nd. Camp Followers are tried by Native Courts-Martial according to the Government Regulations made for that purpose ; for instance, those given in Carrol's Code in the Chapter on " Courts-Martial," among which is Reg. XX. of 1810.

I mention all this to you, merely to enable you to keep distinct in your mind the various Rules and Articles to which the Army in its different branches is liable. Their provisions are exceedingly different one from the other ; and what is prescribed in one case will be illegal sometimes if acted upon in another.

In studying now, I would recommend you to leave out all consideration of the Annual Mutiny Act, as it is called ; that is, the Mutiny Act for the King's Troops. It can hardly come in your way at all, and certainly not till you are removed to a Station where there are King's Troops. As you advance, you may glance at that Statute occasionally, should you meet with it, and so learn its peculiarities as compared with the other Mutiny Act for the Company's Forces. I would not have you bewilder yourself with speculative study in Military Law, till you have acquired proficiency in the provisions and operation of the particular statutory enactments under which you yourself are serving.

But now to begin. Read attentively the Articles of War for the Company's European troops, and the articles which are read on parade to the sepoys ; and write down on a sheet of paper the corresponding ones in both, making notes where they differ, so as to see at once exactly how they are dissimilar. You find, for instance, that *the hours of sitting* are different, and that some crimes, such as a *sentry quitting his post*, &c. are restricted in the articles for the European troops to the cognizance of General Courts-Martial ; while in the articles for native soldiers there is no such restriction. You must carefully note all discrepancies of this kind, and attentively observe the provisions peculiar to either set of articles not included in the other. These are manifold, and must continue to be so, as long as the regulations made for the native soldiery take their date from the last century, while those for the European troops have the advantage of a lapse of about thirty years nearer to the present times, (being even yet ten years in arrear.)

Having now got an intimate knowledge of the mere Articles of War and Mutiny Act, pass on to the consideration of General Orders. I would advise you to restrict yourself for some time to those which affect the practice of regimental and other inferior Courts-Martials, and become well acquainted with these before you go on to the subject of General Courts

Martial. Get from the Adjutant's office all General Orders back to 1824, inclusive. I name that particular year with reference to European Courts Martial only, and because the existing Mutiny Act, as I told you above, came into force in that year. There are important General Orders of an earlier date, and you know the articles for natives would of course take you farther back; but were they just now to do so, you might find yourself impeded or misled by some orders which are superseded by the Mutiny Act. You can afterwards, at your leisure, refer back, and trace the progress and variations of practice;—an intricate and rather dry undertaking. Copy out or take notes of the occasional orders relating to inferior Courts-Martial; for instance, the order restricting sentences of imprisonment to two months, and shortly after to six weeks. You will find several orders concerning Courts of Requests, but I would pass them by for the present, as the orders and proceedings of those courts will form a separate subject. It will not be very laborious to do as I here recommend, for there are but a few orders relating to inferior Courts-Martial. Some of the circular letters from the Adjutant General of the Army, (which you will also find in the Adjutant's office, I presume,) you should consult for the same purpose. Some of these are very important; for instance, a circular in the time of the late Adjutant General in 1827, modifying and explaining Lord Combermere's General Order, by which flogging in the Native Army was almost abolished; the circular of November 1831, restricting sentences of Courts Martial to the *terms* of the Mutiny Act; and that of last year, which gave to Commanding Officers the power to confirm and carry into effect sentences of all kinds which were previously submitted to the General of a division. Be very particular not to let any thing escape you in the orders and circulars, for they are illustrative of the Mutiny Act and Articles of War, and are a part of the Military Law by which we are strictly to be guided.

And now, having got through the preliminaries, bring your knowledge into practice, in the following way. Apply to the Adjutant for the proceedings of all Regimental Courts-Martial, and Line Courts-Martial, (the powers of which, and their practice, are precisely the same;)—and *without looking* at the remarks of the commanding officer, or those of the General of the Division, open the proceedings at the commencement, and examine them carefully by the rules and Articles of War and General Orders. Remember, no point, how ever minute, is too small for your attention. Begin with observing whether the court met at a proper hour,—was composed of the proper number of members;—whether, on the trial of a Christian drummer or serjeant, the court was entirely European, and the president a Captain or a Lieutenant of the prescribed standing;—whether the court was sworn,—whether the witnesses were sworn,—whether the court was closed to pass sentence, for as the court is sworn to secrecy under the mutiny act, the not closing the court is a breach of the oath and of the statute, &c. &c. Continue thus throughout the trial, and observe whether the sentence is in conformity with the articles of war.

Write down your remarks as you go on, from first to last,—where you see errors, state what the proper course would be, and name the particular article or general order, or circular which bears upon the point:—where all is correct, write “proceedings regular.” And now, read the Commanding Officer’s and General’s observations on the trial:—if they notice no informality in the proceedings, you will probably find that in your own notes you had discovered no errors; and perhaps you may find remarks made by them on parts of the trial which had escaped your less experienced eye. But do not wander yet from the consideration of the *mere forms*, which are what I would have you make your first subject, without thinking of any thing else. I mean, do not stop to read a trial through, but look at the points of form merely, such as are above mentioned:—do not yet trouble yourself with the nature of the case and the sufficiency or particulars of the evidence, or any points of law:—but simply ascertain whether the charge is a proper one for an inferior court to try;—whether the trial is, as to form, properly conducted; and whether the sentence accords with the articles and orders. The evidence &c. will form a separate branch of inquiry, when you are further advanced.

I would go in this manner through all the proceedings in the Adjutant’s Office, from 1824 inclusive to the present time. In doing this, you will often meet with little particulars noticed in the Commanding Officer’s or the General’s remarks on the conduct of the trial, which are of consequence to be attended to, and which, though not laid down in the articles of war, or General Orders, or Circulars, yet are prescribed by the acknowledged custom of courts-martial and dictated by propriety. For instance, that a witness once sworn shall *not*, if called a second time into court to be examined, be again sworn;—that a prosecutor shall not be allowed to give evidence as a principal witness without being sworn, and that he shall not hear the testimony of others before he gives his own;—that the court and witnesses shall be sworn in presence of the prisoner: that records of the hours of adjournment and re-assembly shall be duly entered; &c. &c. &c. You would probably by yourself not detect such improprieties till well accustomed to examine proceedings, and therefore I would recommend you to note down every particular remarked upon in this way, and add such notes to your paper of Articles of War; for, the Code Military, (embracing as it does not only the enactments of the law and regulations established by Government, but the tacit and not less imperative prescriptions of the “Custom of War” also,) is imperfect without them.

After the trial is closed, a revision of finding or sentence may possibly have in some cases been directed. Observe, in such instances, whether evidence was taken afresh, whether the court was re-sworn, both which are wrong; and other such remarks. And, even when the trial is finally concluded, and the duty of the court is performed, the operation of articles and rules is still to be carefully watched. You will then have to notice

whether the sentence is inflicted at once, or illegally divided into two inflictions ;—whether it is commuted or exchanged for a punishment of a different nature, for which no authority is given ;—whether ignominious or disgraceful additions are made to it at the time of infliction ;—whether the proper instrument is used in corporally punishing ;—whether, on receiving corporal chastisement, the native soldier is discharged the service, and other similar particulars.

After you have well studied the forms as above suggested, I would recommend you going again carefully over the proceedings, and considering the cases and the evidence ; the remarks of the commanding and the general officers will assist you in detecting errors ; and from this study you will derive benefit. It should be a guiding principle at a court-martial to avoid legal technicalities as much as possible ; most especially at an inferior Court-martial.

Military crimes are generally simple in their nature, can be simply described in a charge, and simply proved or negatived. Points will necessarily arise occasionally, and these will require to be decided by a reference to legal principles of the easier and commoner class : but equitable feeling and military impartiality, aided and softened down on occasions of doubt by benevolent solicitude to spare the prisoner,—these are principles of action at a court-martial to which the guilty may look up with a certainty of being shielded from undue suffering, and the innocent with reasonable hope of honourable exculpation. I have seen a good deal of the practice of inferior courts ; and certainly I never saw a case which brought credit on the court, the superintending officer, the prosecutor, or parties to the trial, wherein a long, artful, opening speech was made, or much objection to examinations started, or legal technicalities bandied about. An inferior court-martial is no proper arena for subtleties and nice distinctions of law. The broad outline of the rules of proceeding, viz.,—that a man shall not be allowed to criminate himself ;—that a witness shall be required to give open and fair testimony without being led or prompted ;—that the prisoner shall have his option to cross-examine ;—that no more shall be admitted in evidence than sufficient to prove the actual charge ;—that hearsay shall not be received ;—that the evidence shall be strictly to the charges and not travel beyond them ;—that evidence in favour, though brought on the prosecution against the prisoner, shall be carefully recorded ;—that each witness shall tell his own story and not be allowed merely to corroborate the statements already on record ;—that a prisoner shall always be considered innocent till he is proved guilty ;—that he shall invariably have the benefit of any doubt :—these, and such general rules, which require no great study of treatises on law to instil them into the breasts of men of proper feeling and equitable discrimination, will, ordinarily speaking, be enough to prevent an inferior court-martial from committing great errors, and effectually serve the purposes of

even-handed justice. A military man in the performance of his duty at a court-martial will never be far out of his due course, if true *esprit de corps* on the one hand keep alive his zeal for the honor of the service, by prompting him unflinchingly to mete out condign punishment to the proved delinquent, and to watch over the interest of him who innocently stands accused; while, on the other hand, the man within his breast shall reveal itself, and his sterner feelings shall be ever ready to yield, without any compromise of justice, to the influence of sympathies with a prisoner, of which no real soldier ever was, or ever will, be ashamed.

One thing in your readings you must recollect; you must not imagine that there are no errors in a set of proceedings because no errors are pointed out in the remarks made on the trial: for, when there are very slight deviations from exact propriety, they are often passed over without notice, provided they do not affect the justice of the case.

Then advancing from the practice of inferior courts, try to obtain the perusal of all General Orders promulgating proceedings of general courts-martial, and study attentively the Commander-in-Chief's remarks. From these you will learn a very great part of the duty of the court,—of the prosecutor,—of the prisoner,—of the Judge Advocate, as well as many points to be attended to in conducting a trial, and in taking evidence. Make memoranda of all such remarks, under separate heads, to prevent confusion: viz., as follows:—

1. Duties of President or Members of the Court.
2. ——— of Prosecutor.
3. ——— of Prisoner.
4. ——— of Judge Advocate.
5. ——— of Superintending Officer.
6. Points of form.
7. Memoranda on evidence.
8. Points of practice.
9. Dates of latest decisions on such points.

You will thus get a very considerable insight into the business of courts-martial, but no great practical knowledge of the rules of evidence. On these you can consult books which may be within your reach; and there is no necessity for your going to works on evidence on the practice of Criminal Law, for this information. Hough's book you have at hand;

Colonel Vans Kennedy's Treatise, and Simmons' Practice of Courts-Martial are both very good. Tytler's work is an established and respected book, though not infallible. If you are fortunate enough to procure all these to read, peruse them with fixed attention; and, as you study one, turn to the pages of the others, and compare the conflicting opinions. When you have done this on any particular point, look over your memoranda of Commander-in-Chief's remarks on General Courts-Martial, and see whether any decision on that particular point has been promulgated in orders. If so, that decision, should it be uncontradicted by any subsequent order, is *law* and final in this country, and must be abided by. No work on Military Law has ever been recognized by authority as a text book for courts-martial; so you are not to pin your faith on any opinions stated in any book you meet with. If an opinion stated in the books is confirmed in General Orders, hold that fast;—if contradicted, you must in practice give it up, however much against your judgment; for, as I said before, a General Order containing an opinion of the Commander-in-Chief is decisive on the point. As to the rest, your own study, reasoning, judgment, and experience, or the opinions of those who are able to advise you, must guide you in adopting or discarding the sentiments of writers on Military Law.

You will observe that I have not touched upon the Criminal Jurisdiction of General Courts-Martial, first granted by the present Mutiny Act for the Company's Forces. Crimes against Civil Law, as contradistinguished from the Law Military, and their treatment, form a most important subject of study, but too complicated and serious to be introduced into such a course as this letter lays down. You must be a proficient in common military law, before you take in hand the criminal jurisdiction of courts-martial.

Do not be discouraged by the apparent laboriousness of the course I have here laid down for your studies. I think, if you follow it up steadily, you will find unexpected interest attend your steps, and your advance will be gradual, clear, and satisfactory to yourself. I shall be pleased to receive from you, occasionally, questions and remarks as you proceed; and to hear now and then that you do firmly continue in the resolution you have so wisely adopted, of acquiring a competent knowledge of military law. That acquirement is too often neglected or thrown aside as an uninteresting pursuit; but it is one which will ever be acknowledged by more considerate men to be indispensable to every member of the profession.

Believe me, your's very truly,

ON THE OVERLAND INVASION OF INDIA.

Bobadil.—I will tell you, Sir, by the way of private and under seal ; I am a gentleman and live here obscure, and to myself ; but were I known to her Majesty, and the Lords (observe me,) I would undertake (upon this poor head and life) for the public benefit of the state, not only to spare the entire lives of her subjects in general, but to save the one half, nay, three parts of her yearly charge, in holding war, and against what enemy soever. And how would I do it think you ?

Ed. Know'ell.—Nay, I know not, nor can I conceive.

Bobadil.—Why thus, Sir. I would select nineteen more, to myself, throughout the land ; gentlemen they should be of good spirit, strong, and able constitutions. I would choose them by an instinct, a character, that I have : and I would teach these nineteen the special rules, as your *Punto*, your *Reverso*, your *Stoccata*, your *Imbroccata*, your *Passada*, your *Montanto*, till they could all play very near, or altogether as well as myself. This done, say the enemy were forty thousand strong—we twenty would come into the field the 10th of March or thereabouts, and we would challenge twenty of the enemy ; they could not in their honor refuse us,—well, we would kill them ; twenty more, kill them too ; and thus would we kill every man his twenty a day, that's twenty score, that's four hundred—four hundred a day—ten days four thousand, forty thousand, ten times four forty—ten times ten—a hundred days kills them all up, by computation. And this will I venture my poor gentleman-like carcase to perform (provided there be no treason practised upon us) by fair and discreet manhood, that is, civilly by the sword.—*Every man in his humour.*

It is one of the most remarkable, and perhaps gratifying, signs of the times—now that the Temple of Janus has remained shut for so many years—that military men who are no longer in a situation to benefit their country by means of their swords, in laying that weapon aside have taken up their pens to enlighten their fellow countrymen. We here allude to professional writings alone ;—but when we call to mind the many agreeable works of every description which have lately appeared from the pens of military and naval men, we look upon the prediction of the poet—in a literary point of view at least—to be completely fulfilled :

*Incultis que rubens pendebit sentibus uva,
Et dura quercus sudabunt roscida mella.*

It is to the concluding part of that prophecy, however, that our present speculations more immediately refer :—

— erunt etiam altera bella
Atque iterum ad Trojam magnus mittetur Achilles.

We say this efflux of military writers is gratifying ; because, although—as in duty bound—we hold war and all its horrors in utter detestation, yet we are not the less sensible of the truth of a very common but time-honored maxim, that to be assured of peace we must always be prepared to fight for it ; and as discussions tending to the improvement of our military institutions or policy certainly have the effect of rendering us formidable even in a state of repose, we hail them as the harbingers of a long and honorable exemption from warlike excitement. Discussion, however, though it undoubtedly elicits

truth in the end, does so by a somewhat tardy process. The vanity of authorship tempts the disputant rather to try how much, than how much to the purpose, he can write upon any given subject; and the pride of argument—if it might not more correctly be designated wilful disingenuousness—too often leads him to overlook and undervalue the reasoning which is opposed to the opinion he espouses, whilst to any incidental support which his own views may derive from the arguments of others, he gives the greatest possible amplification. Thus the really impartial reader, what with being fairly tired out by one party, and almost bewildered by the other, runs no small risk of being reduced to the same condition as the young man who consulted *Mephistophiles* on a proper course of study—that is, of not knowing exactly whether he stands upon his head or his heels!

We have been led into these reflections by the perusal of an article in the *London United Service Journal* on the much debated but hardly debateable subject of a Russian invasion of India. It is written by a man of considerable acquirement and of fair military reading, but apparently of very little practical experience. He has taken up a decided opinion, that the invasion is impossible, and, therefore, after the mode we have just been hinting at, every argument is warped to serve the purpose of his foregone conclusion. He takes a rapid survey of ancient and modern history, and attempts to infer, from Alexander's countermarch on the banks of the Hyphasis—from the loss sustained by Hannibal in his passages of the Alps—and from Napoleon's disaster in Russia—that so distant and arduous an undertaking as an overland attack on India is totally out of the question. But if mankind were to be scared by such examples as these, it would for ever remain stationary in almost every walk of discovery or science; for what progress has ever been made but after many previously unsuccessful trials—what, in fact, is experience itself but an accumulation of results, most of which have fallen short of, and some turned out totally contrary to, expectation? History, it has been said, is teaching by example; and the true way to render military history profitable is to scrutinize deeply into the causes of success or failure—and not to prophecy, after the event, that matters could not have fallen out differently.

With Alexander the Great and Hannibal we will have nothing to do at present. We admire Quintus Curtius and Arrian, and have great respect for Livy, but, in all humility, we must confess we do not think they can be relied upon for facts any more than the bulletins of the grand army. But Napoleon belongs to our own times, and we have something more than bulletins to refer to. That great man, we all know, had long ceased to be the "soldier citizen" when he set forward on his Russian expedition—he had accustomed himself to make war in the true spirit of a despot—he had been pledged to uphold legitimate abuses, and he had allied himself by blood to one of their most inveterate and powerful supporters. When, therefore, he ad-

vanced into Poland, instead of completing the work of its regeneration—to which we are assured he felt himself personally inclined—he was compelled to temporise, to conciliate Austria, to allay every jealousy with respect to Galicia, and, finally, to avoid the question of Polish independence altogether. Thus, instead of organizing Poland, as was obviously his policy in every, but particularly in a military, point of view, he hurried through the country, and immediately put his army in motion. This was his first misfortune;—his declining to winter at Wilna, attributable partly to the same causes, and partly to the importunities of his principal officers, was his second—the unexpected and unauthorized, but most decisive step of setting fire to Moscow, was the third, and perhaps greatest of all, since it not only neutralized previous successes, but augmented subsequent disaster.—For it is now pretty generally known that Alexander though he talked of letting his beard grow down to his girdle rather than consent to a peace, was actually on the point of concluding one, probably overawed into the measure by the discontents of the nobles whose estates lay in the tract of the hostile armies, and whose serfs were in that state of excitement and ripeness for insurrection which is so terrific in the eyes of the sugar planters of Jamaica and elsewhere at the present moment; but the news of Reptechin's intrepid patriotism so completely rekindled the enthusiasm of all ranks, as to render that a national war which had begun to be considered as merely the affair of the Emperor.—Then came the frightful and calamitous winter—so severe that even the Russians themselves were prevented from taking full advantage of their good fortune—and last, but not least, the blundering and unaccountable conduct of the Porte in making, precisely at that crisis, a peace which let loose a formidable army of their common foes upon the retreating columns of Napoleon. These, we take it, are the elements of the disaster in question; and yet the writer before us ventures to allude to it in the following terms, when speaking of the necessity of having a solid basis of operations:—"The successful inroads made by the French armies under Napoleon, only prove that his enemies were more ignorant of the true principles of the deadly game at which they were playing, than he was himself; and the first time he was resisted—the very first time his enemies refused to yield to his summons, his failure (from causes that admitted before-hand of as evident demonstration as the simplest proposition in Euclid) was so complete, that but for the hold his reputation has got upon the minds of men, his name, as a soldier, would be held up to scorn and derision." A great deal of ponderantry has assuredly been uttered on the subject of a base line of operations,—of concentric, excentric, single and multiplied lines—but that any sensible man should have been led to indite such palpable nonsense and effrontery as this, is almost inconceivable.

Not content, however, with holding up Napoleon's disaster in *terrarem*, he proceeds to organize an expedition on his own plan, and thence—no wonder—to prognosticate the total impracticability of such an enterprise. He

conceives, apparently, that the advance is to be conducted in a single column—without any previous examination of the countries to be traversed, nor any arrangement for securing the rear of the army, or keeping its communications open. The population, every where formidable and every where in hostility, is supposed to close and fill up the space behind the advancing force, like the ocean in the wake of some noble ship, obliterating every trace of its onward progress. The rapidity with which the front is to proceed necessarily leaves the sick and the lame without any resource or hope of assistance; and they fall an easy prey to the cruelty and rapaciousness of a barbarous and exasperated foe. In this way, our author contends, Napoleon lost 175,000 men out of his column of 295,000 which he kept under his personal command in advancing upon Moscow! And if so, he asks, how many will perish in the more inhospitable regions between Russia and India? Now, with regard to the actual fatigues encountered in the march to Moscow, it may be sufficient to observe, that, according to this writer's own showing, the average distance gone over—including halts—was only six miles a day. Doubtless, however, the divisions in advance had occasionally very hard work of it, but they were constantly relieved from the corps in their immediate rear, who came up by ordinary marches with few or no calls for particular exertion. Some, of course, remained behind sick or lame, and were picked up by the field hospitals, others straggled on marauding excursions, and some, too, perhaps, deserted, but by far the greatest portion of the 175,000 *absentees* were left to keep up the communication,—to garrison Wilna, Minsk, Witepsk, Smolensko, &c.—to form depôts and bring up convoys.

But not only is our author's invading army to be cut up in the rear during its march; it is to be opposed at every step by skilful marksmen by whom "entire battalions may be brought down by the musket and rifle from across torrents and precipices;"—the "night setting in and the night tract lost," so that "an European Army after such a march in the countries leading down to the Indus, finding itself attacked in front, flank, and rear by bodies of light troops skilfully commanded, always giving way, but constantly returning, and finding the passage of the river securely guarded, should, were duty done on every hand, have no alternative but to lay down their arms." And again, as if this summary mode of disposing of his forty thousand were not enough, the weather is called in to assist in their discomfiture. "The snow storms of the Hindoo Kho, the rushing avalanches of Cabul, or the tornados of the Punjab." "In the higher regions of those districts winter is even colder than in Russia (?)—and in the lower grounds rains prevail to an extent, that the following extract from the Subaltern's log-book will shew:"—And what does that extract refer to?—An account of a battalion of sepoy having been overtaken by a heavy shower of rain during a change of cantonments somewhere on the Madras side of India! But this is not all. "The whole of Marshal Junot's army was dispersed by a two days' storm in its advance on Portugal"—wonderful! Reader! "art thou not horribly afraid

—doth not thy blood thrill at it ?”—And what became of the Marshal and his army after this catastrophe ? We shrewdly suspect that the scattered particles were speedily re-united, and that the whole, thereafter, proceeded quietly on the route to Lisbon, as if nothing of consequence had happened. It may indeed be mentioned, for the benefit of all subalterns who write log-books, and of all elderly gentlemen who are astounded at their details, that with regard to storms, there is generally one consolation, and that not a trivial one ;—if the army is opposed, a storm is as inconvenient to your enemy as to yourself—and if no enemy is at hand, why you have only to provide the best cover you can till the storm is over. Had the *temps affreux* not been about as inconvenient to the Russians as it was to the French what would have become of the latter, compelled as they were to precipitate their retreat in consequence of the southern Russian army having advanced upon their communications ?

As to the feeling of the inhabitants in the several districts to be traversed, they are, as a matter of course, conceived to be in every instance hostile to the invaders and friendly to all others. Thus when Col. Evans remarks that Attock is about midway between the invaders and defenders of India, the writer in the *U. S. Journal* tells us, he forgets that a march through our own or a subject territory is very different from a march through strange, not to say hostile countries, and cannot possibly be measured by the same scale. But where did he learn that the Punjab was our own or a subject territory ?—and, if it be not, what is there to prevent the Russians from establishing the same sort of influence in their half of the debatable land that we do in ours ?

It is, in short, with military writers of this calibre, as with credulous men in general—*omne ignotum pro magnifico est*—with them every mountain range is impracticable, every desert impassable, every river broad, rapid, and destitute of fords and bridges ; every hot country is under a vertical sun “all day long,” and every cold one eternally vexed with storms and rain. Thus our author gravely assures us that the Hindoo Kho is of unconquerable loneliness, the almost unknown and untravelled mountain centre of the entire continent—(upon this subject we would refer him to the recent travellers, *inter multos alios*, Burnes and Gerrard.) Then as to the Steppes or “impassable” deserts of Central Asia, we refer him to travellers who have passed over them in every direction, and who describe them as covered with luxurious, or as Tooke calls it, “noble” herbage. Moreover, the deserts surrounding Khiva and Bokhara are not broader than that of Cosseir, over which Sir David Baird’s sepoy’s marched without scarcely any loss ;—water, too, is oftener to be found upon them ; and camels, those “ships of the desert,” are procurable in any required number. But the author’s description of the Indus is a climax, as well it may be, for on its bank the invading army is to lay down its arms ;—it is broad, rapid, deep, skilfully defended, and neither to be turned, nor passed ! We almost thought we

were reading an account of the Western Ocean into which the impatient Akbar spurred his horse on seeing his career so completely stopped by it. But men who live in times when pic-nic parties are made in the Andes, when buggies drive over the Alps, and eighteen-pounders scale the Himalayahs; and who know, too, as Colonel Evans remarks, that, in war, rivers are the least impassable of all barriers, are not quite so easily to be lulled into security by an exaggerated enumeration of such obstacles as are likely to oppose the advance of the Russians. To the uninitiated, indeed, these accounts are at first vastly appalling, but on reflection they so greatly resemble the pictures which mere amateurs are apt to draw of the dangers and disasters of war,

Wherein of antres vast, and deserts wild,
Rough quarries, rocks, and hills whose heads touch heaven
It is their hint to speak—

that we must take leave to cast them aside altogether in weighing the *pros* and *cons* of the mighty enterprise alluded to. We are, we repeat it, no passionate admirers of war, the *gaudia certaminis* are no guides to us, yet we hold that to be but a hollow sort of security which is derived exclusively from the extravagant notions which some may choose to form of the strength of paste-board defences, and entrenchments which an enterprising enemy could pass at a hop-step-and-jump. No, let us be well acquainted with the real extent of our danger, and then, after doing all in our power to avert it, we will, peace-loving mortals though we be, cheerfully gird up our loins and do good fight if need be, in the common cause of our country's honour and prosperity,

The practicability of invading the British possessions in India by land has often been asserted and almost as often been on the point of being put to the test. To go no further back than the wars of the Revolution, Napoleon's plan for carrying 30,000 French and as many Asiatics with 150 field pieces from Egypt to the banks of the Indus was deliberately framed, and, notwithstanding the ridicule with which it has been treated, there is nothing absurd in supposing that the projector's "great experience," as Colonel Evans expresses it, "and the reports of the various officers whom he dispatched into Persia and even to the confines of India, must have fully informed him on the subject of the means of transport generally to be calculated on in those countries." The full co-operation of the Turkish and Persian governments was evidently considered as certain, and upon whatever grounds this may have been assumed, the circumstance alone renders the error in point of time, which Colonel Evans conceives Napoleon to have committed, if not altogether trivial, certainly of much less importance than the Colonel thought it to be; since a great distance to be traversed, merely as a journey, with little or no anxiety as to the means of transport or supplies, would of course be got over much more quickly than by the ordinary rate

of marching: We agree, therefore, with Colonel Evans' main conclusion on this point, that although difficult, as liable to unforeseen accidents of various descriptions, it was by no means impossible.

Shortly after the campaign of Marengo, another project was submitted to the French Consul. Its execution was based upon the then recent peace with Austria, and the alliance of Russia under the ill-starred Emperor Paul. A corps of 35,000 French from the Army of the Rhine was to descend the Danube, cross the Black Sea, advance up the Don, and then, marching across the narrow interval which separates that river from the Volga, take up the boats, and follow the track of a similar number of Russians, who, by that time would have embarked at Astrachan and proceeded to Persia. The whole army was to have assembled at Astrabad, and marched by Meschid, Herat, Furrah and Candahar, to the Indus, after issuing a proclamation stating, that the combined forces of the two most powerful nations in the universe intended to pass through Persia, in order to set the once celebrated rich and powerful Hindostan free from the barbarous and tyrannical yoke of the English;—that the co-operation of the Princes and people of the states through which the combined army was to pass, was invited in order to forward by all possible means so glorious and useful an enterprise; that the army would levy no contribution, but pay for every thing in ready money,—that severe discipline would be maintained,—and that the worship, laws, customs, manners, property, and above all the women, should be respected. Commissaries and Engineers were to have preceded the army, to reconnoitre, procure supplies, and distribute presents, of which latter a considerable store was to have been brought from Paris, accompanied by an institute of learned men and a numerous body of artisans of all descriptions. As to the means of transport, horses and waggons were to have been provided in the Southern Provinces of Russia, the French Artillery and Cavalry bringing nothing but their harness and saddlery with them;—camels, it was supposed, Persia could supply in any numbers. The whole chain of operation, in short, was arranged with very considerable skill and precision, excepting one link which unfortunately was entirely wanting—the possible interruption which the English might be disposed to occasion in the passage of the several divisions of the army of the East across the Black Sea, there existed no means of counteracting—It was suggested, indeed, somewhat mysteriously, that if Turkey permitted such interference still the Czar would protest against it, and that “he possessed better means of rendering his opposition effectual than was expected.” The assassination of the unhappy Paul, however, which occurred whilst the affair was still pending, and the subsequent peace with England, completely put an end to the meditated enterprise; and we hear nothing more on this subject till General Gardanne was sent to Persia by the French Government to prepare the way for operations, which were said to have afterwards been arranged at Tilsit, during the negotiations of 1807, but the particulars of which, we believe, never transpired. In

1812, during the campaign of Moscow, the project appears to have been revived. Then indeed—and before military critics had discovered the weakness of Napoleon's base line of operations—it was currently believed that in the event of peace, a corps of the French army under Davoust, aided by one of similar strength from Russia, was to descend the Volga, cross the Caspian and march on India. How far this story was correct we have not at present the means of satisfying our readers, but on the nomination of the Earl of Moira as Governor General of India, the rumour gained ground; and although the departure of his lordship was so long delayed that he did not arrive in Calcutta till after all apprehensions had been dispelled by the utter ruin of the French army; yet his double appointment of Civil Governor, and Commander-in-Chief, was generally believed to have been in consequence of the crisis alluded to, and the following extract from the 'Summary' of the Marquis of Hastings, certainly does any thing but discountenance the opinion. "As to attack from abroad, the intention must be long previously discovered so that India could not be found unprepared. The project would be futile did it not embrace the calculation of disposition and ability in the inhabitants of India to facilitate the undertaking;—such an expectation would in the existing position of affairs be groundless." Then, after, not perhaps, very satisfactorily, supporting this assertion by stating his reasons for making it, he adds—"There is, however, in India a principle capable of superseding the most thorough conviction of interests, or even the strongest personal wishes; certain acknowledged public obligations are held by the native Princes so binding on what they call their *hoormut* or plighted honour to society, that no consideration can induce them to palter with the constructive pledge." His Lordship then narrates the manner in which the Nabob Vizier was encouraged to assume the title of the King of Oude, as the best mode of counteracting the acknowledged devotion to the house of Tinnour, which might otherwise have constrained him to join any invader whose declared object was the restoration of the throne of Delhi, adding, with that mixture of candour and confidence which characterised him, "There is now no inconvenience in exposing these details. Our internal domination is firm from its standing on the surest of all basis, the conviction prevalent amongst the natives, (with exceptions so few as not to weigh against the meaning of the general assertion) that their own comforts are especially interwoven in it."

This was in 1823, and the next time we hear of the invasion is in an essay by the celebrated J. B. Say, who pronounces the enterprise impracticable. M. Say is a man of great ability and exceedingly well-informed, but as this impracticability was only discovered when the French were no longer in a condition to take their share in the expedition, we are almost inclined to believe that there was a reservation in the writer's mind to the effect that no such project could hope to succeed without his nation lent its assistance.

We had rather look the danger calmly in the face than trust to the assertions of a continental writer that it does not exist.

In 1839, two works bearing upon this much agitated subject appeared, one by Colonel De Lacy Evans, entitled "On the practicability of an Invasion of British India,"—and the other "Reflections on the Present State of British India,"—printed without the author's name. The former work, devoted as it is to one subject, is more full of information relatively to the several routes that offer themselves and to the nature of the countries through which they pass, than the latter pretends to be; and on rising from its perusal we feel ourselves bound to say that we could not comprehend how any doubt could possibly be entertained not only as to the entire practicability of the enterprise, but as to its having for many years past, been kept steadily in the eye of the Russian Government as one which circumstances may at no distant period recommend to their adoption. The regions to be traversed are some of the finest in the world, whether we look to soil or climate, or to the abundance of almost every thing that an advancing army could require and particularly of that most essential article, the means of transport. Horses and camels constitute the wealth of the inhabitants, and accounts state them to be so numerous that but for the concurrent testimony of many writers of undoubted veracity and sound judgment, the fact might almost appear incredible. Oxen, mules and asses are also plentiful and of superior quality. The principal track which Colonel Evans points out is facilitated throughout a great portion of its extent by a navigable stream upon which there is great abundance of boats of a size and make which peculiarly adapt them for the use of a military force. And, lastly, as to the disposition of the inhabitants in general—or their capabilities of resistance if indisposed to be friendly—the accounts are such as to divest even the most cautious man of every feeling of doubt, with respect to the complete success of the undertaking. On the great plains of the Oxus, or more properly speaking, from Orenburgh to the neighbourhood of the Hindu Khoosh, neither in the mode in which the natives are armed, nor in their ability to act in concert, is there anything in the slightest degree formidable to a disciplined army.

The latest publication on the subject now before us, and, we doubt not, the one which has called forth the article in the *United Service Journal* which we have been adverting to—is entitled "Eastern and Egyptian Scenery ruins, &c. illustrative of a journey from India to Europe, &c." by Captain C. F. Head of the Queen's Royals. The concluding chapter of this work has "Defence of British India from Russian Invasion" for its heading, in the style and sentiment of which there is such a remarkable coincidence with portions of the "Reflections, &c." above mentioned, that we can scarcely doubt the source from which the author has drawn many of his statements, although he has not thought fit to acknowledge his obligations. Captain

Head, however, bears ample testimony to the ease with which the enterprise in question might be carried into effect, and, though he adds but little that is at all new to the discussion, that little goes to strengthen the recorded opinions of practical men as above enumerated. He states, on the authority of Du Halls and Le Compte, that the country lying between the Sir on the North, and the Hindoo range of mountains on the South, contains in addition to all other requisites, "wood in great plenty and in different parts,"—a point on which the accounts before referred to were not quite so conclusive as was desirable—and he quotes the Evidence taken before a Select Committee of the House of Commons, to shew that the Russians "have surveyed the Oxus with great care, and all the country to India. *They are establishing a military colony at Khiva.* Further it is supposed they have steam navigation in view, to serve which purpose there is coal about the sea of Aral." He states also, though upon what authority is not mentioned, that the line by the Gulph of Balkan in the direction of Herat, is, "there can be little doubt, the one that would be adopted by the Russian army, and it will be found 600 miles in length. The distance will therefore be no more than thirteen or fourteen hundred miles from the Caspian to the Indus; and the bare possibility of its practicability ought to be considered with attention." Frazer, however, speaks of landing a force "at Balkan or at Maguslac, which, with common management, might not only capture but retain possession of Khiva, and project and prepare for ulterior greater advantages." The author of the "Reflections" above alluded to, had also pointed out the route from the Gulph of Balkan to Herat as being much the shortest line by which the Indus could be approached—but it is rather singular that the uncertainty he speaks of, as to the course of the river on which Herat is situated—whether it joins the Tedzen and runs into the Gulph of Balkan, or is merely a branch of the Oxus, as Captain Head appears to believe—still remains, or has been cleared up by the Russians alone.

We take leave to say, however, that the adopting of either of these routes—that advocated by Colonel Evans by Khiva and Bokhara, Balk and Cabul, or the one last spoken of—would have too much the air of an insulated, not to say romantic, military expedition, for these times of watchful diplomacy and cautious state policy. In either of the supposed cases the actual invasion of India could hardly be effected before the third campaign, or year of the undertaking, and what reason would the Russians have to calculate upon so long a duration of a state of war as would enable them to reap the advantages which they would have proposed to themselves on setting out? True, if we take it for granted that an army of the required strength might be assembled with facility in the South Eastern Provinces of Russia and pushed upon Khiva or embarked on the Caspian for the Gulph of Balk—and arrangements for both these operations are, there can be no doubt, in silent progress at the present moment—a march to the banks of the Indus would not be greater than many that have been made by detachments of the Indian Army with Infantry and Artillery.

lery. Part of Lord Lake's army in 1804-5, marched from Cawnpore to Agra, Delhi, Futtighur, Bhurtpore, Moradabad and back to Bhurtpore and Agra, a distance which, including deviations from the direct route, and movements for the purpose of bringing on an engagement, could not have amounted to less than twelve or fourteen hundred miles—and, according to Col. Evans, the force which pursued the Paishwah during the last Mahratta war, marched over a space, calculated at two thousand two hundred miles, with Horse Artillery, in seven months—whereas the shortest distance from the Caspian to the banks of the Indus is, as before stated, only about thirteen hundred miles, nearly half of which might, it is supposed, be performed by water. Still there is a vast difference between a long march to conclude, and a long march to commence a campaign; and, with every disposition to laud the good conduct of the troops under General Lake and the Marquis of Hastings, we humbly opine that they would not have greatly relished entering upon a fresh course of arduous warfare immediately after the fatigue and exertions to which we have just alluded. But the same, if not greater, must fall to the lot of the Russians before they can hope to measure their swords with the Indian army even on the plains of the Punjab! For this reason alone we are inclined to believe that an attack on India will never be attempted until the debateable land between the two rival powers is very considerably narrowed—so considerably, indeed, as to bring them very nearly in contact. But what then—is this likely to be a point of much difficulty, or to require any great time to effect? The treaty of Tourkmanitchai in 1828, gave the Russians possession of the Araxes and opened to them a free passage to Teheran; and their army in that quarter no doubt eagerly expects an invitation from one of the Shah's forty sons, nearly half of whom, as Colonel Macdonald Kinneir informs us, are governors of towns and provinces, and who all, without exception, look to the throne of Persia in the event of their father's demise. "Such" says the author of the "Reflections" "is the uncertainty of life as well as right among the members of the royal family, that any of them, whatever might be his pretensions, would gladly cede one half of the kingdom to an auxiliary who was powerful enough to secure him in the undisturbed possession of the remainder." This, he goes on to say, is by far the most effectual mode by which Russia can place herself in such a position as to enable her to advance upon India at the shortest notice; and in the meantime her power and proximity give her all the influence she can require in central Asia for the gradual organization of her plans, should she think it advisable to co-operate by the route of Herat, or that of Cabul, or both, with the force which her Persian allies may have permitted her to station in Eastern Khorasaan.

To this extent, then, we think the invasion of India, though possibly distant, is an enterprise admitting of as easy an execution as any other of importance which the category of war can expose us to. But notwithstanding this we are far from being convinced that the mere-military defence of this

country is the point to which attention should be exclusively directed. We believe that the idea of danger proceeds as much, if not more, from an apprehension of disaffection existing among our India subjects, as from any notion we may entertain of the actual strength and resources of our external enemies, whoever they may be. This we say in reference to India alone, but the mischief of such apprehension in reference to our European policy may be, and probably is, much greater. "Nations," says the writer last quoted "like individuals, to be honest must be independent; and under the bare possibility of our Asiatic territories being wrested from us, it is not difficult to conjecture the unworthy compliances into which we may be driven." This passage we confess suggests one reason, amongst the thousand which the complicated and difficult situation of the Home Government must impose upon it, for the unwonted and undignified apathy with which Great Britain witnessed the horrors of the late Polish insurrection, and the unheard of barbarities by which its suppression was followed. We are aware, however, that, practically speaking, this is an argument which cuts both ways—for if an apprehension of danger to our Asiatic dominions can deter England from protecting a brave but unfortunate people from Russian despotism and cruelty, the consciousness of having such a canker as Poland in her side must put it out of the power of Russia to molest us in this country. International morality would remain in *statu quo* in both cases, and thus it is that one evil, however great, becomes an excuse for perpetrating another of a still more atrocious description. But there is still one collateral consideration, by no means to be overlooked, in the effect which the bare suspicion of instability in our dominion may have not only on the governed but upon the means of governing. An appearance of weakness which may hold out to external enemies the temptation to attack us—and a sense of danger which may lead the well-disposed to dread, and the disaffected to desire such an event, are alike injurious to the interests of the country. The former, as the direct and certain consequence of an unwise economy would ultimately lead to an enormous expenditure; and the latter would undermine all confidence in our Government and effectually prevent the internal resources of the country from developing themselves. In either case there would be, as Colonel Evans expresses it, "a rallying point for the disaffected and a beacon for their encouragement and direction, whereby India must soon become either untenable to us, or, from the excess of expenditure over receipts, resulting from this state of things, unworthy of further retention." The true medium seems to be to assume so firm an attitude, by the imposing nature of our military force, as to strengthen the confidence of our well-disposed subjects, and, by commanding respect abroad, render hopeless every attempt materially to disturb our tranquillity, either within or without the frontier.

And this leads us to offer a few remarks on the strength of our India government at the present conjuncture.—By means of the press every civilized

state can with the greatest facility ascertain not only the actual military force of a rival power, but how far the subjects of that power are disposed to rely upon the perfect efficiency of the arrangements adopted for their protection. It thence becomes the most prominent duty of a government to place the security of the governed above all suspicion of danger—and to take especial care that the means of defence are in just proportion to the magnitude of the interests to be defended. This point once adequately provided for, the whole energy of the government should be directed to the improvement of the condition of the people by encouraging the development of the internal resources of the country, fostering its commerce, and purifying the administration of the law. At the present moment—when the existing charter of the East India Company is on the point of expiring—these important subjects have engaged the attention of all who take an interest in the affairs of India and in the general happiness of mankind. Much has been written, and various opinions have been offered on the mode by which it has been proposed to continue to govern India, but at this distance from the scene of discussion, and, believing, as we do, that the plan submitted by the president of the Board of Controul will be very little altered in its passage through Parliament, we are rather anxious to point out what parts of it are likely to be beneficial, than to condemn the whole because it does not exactly square with our fixed opinions on the subject. We are certainly of opinion that it would have been more suitable to the dignity of a great Empire to have taken upon itself the entire government of its Asiatic dominions by means of the servants of the crown, but we are quite aware that, in the existing position of affairs, this would have been attended with difficulty, and, besides, we think there is much good sense in Mr. C. Grant's observation in favour of governing India by means of a company—not of joint-stock merchants, for merchants they will no longer be, but—of Directors under the Controul of a Board. "It was by the interposition of that Company between England and the people of India," Mr. G. remarks "that India had been protected from those continual vicissitudes of political party and ambition which had been felt in the former country, and which would have opposed the most formidable impediment to the progress of the Indian people." We happen to have observed that in the crown colonies a very great degree of irritation—and disappointments of the most trying nature—are frequently occasioned by unlooked-for changes in the Home Government. After the Colonists have been at the pains—sometimes attended with serious expense—of paving the way for any measure of public advantage, and of sending agents to England to explain their views more fully to the head of the Colonial Department—and just as that functionary, with characteristic tediousness of deliberation, has begun to form a right opinion on the subject, and to discern the propriety of the desired arrangement, a change of administration is announced, and the individual who succeeds to the Colonial Office is not only entirely ignorant of the details over which he is appointed to preside,

but comes into power with prejudices and prepossessions directly in opposition to every thing that was done, or likely to be done, by his predecessor ! From evils such as these the Government of a Company will, as heretofore, it is anticipated, effectually protect the good people of India ; and meantime the fact of the charter being renewed at certain fixed periods affords a favourable opportunity for reviewing the operations of Government, and correcting its principle—a point which has ever been considered a great desideratum. “ Those systems of Government ” it has been observed by a great political writer “ are best constituted and continue longest which either have establishments and institutions of their own, by the application of which they may be reduced to their first principles, or easily fall by accident, as it were, into some course that tends to such a renovation.” The Company too, will no longer be obnoxious to the objection that was formerly with justice urged against it of uniting trade with its Government, and of too often making the latter subservient to the former. Its functions will now be restricted to the political administration of India ; and under the new order of things it would seem that the Board of Control and the Court of Directors are together to constitute a sort of Council of the Indies not much unlike that by which the Government of Spain was accustomed to manage her transmarine possessions, free however, it is to be hoped, from those revolting abuses which that council practised or at least connived at—and which converted the saying of a celebrated traveller almost into a proverb—that “ it is requisite to be very powerful and very rich to obtain in Spain the punishment of an abuse of power committed in the Spanish Indies.”

The immediate expense of the arrangement alluded to appears to be the most objectionable part of it, but even that has been greatly overrated by those who disapprove of the measure altogether, and on that account think themselves bound to oppose all its details. That ministers have been too liberal to the proprietors of the India Stock there can be little doubt—the rise in the price of that stock to a level considerably above that of the ordinary interest of the country, is a sufficient proof of the fact—but with respect to the burthen inflicted upon India, though it is certainly greater than there was any necessity for, it is still but slight when compared with her resources, and with the ulterior benefits by which it is accompanied. Her whole debt, independent of the value of the Company’s assets, is stated by Mr. Grant to be forty millions, and if we take the proposed annuity of £ 630,000 for forty years, at 4 per cent., and upon the terms indicated in that gentlemen’s speech,—it will be equivalent to an addition of about 18 millions making the real Indian debt 58 millions, including every charge that can, fairly or otherwise, be brought against the country, the revenue of which is stated to be 22 millions, and to be on the increase,—that is, her whole debt is considerably less than the amount of three years’ revenue—Would to heaven we could say as much of the mother country !

But the most remarkable feature in Mr. Grant's speech—and which we do not recollect to have seen noticed by any of the writers on either side, is the tacit assumption of the principle that India is a patrimony—an estate, in short, the rent of which is the sole property of that great landlord, the British nation. That rent, which is no other than the territorial revenue, is spoken of as totally distinct from the taxes levied upon the Indian public. The proposed annuity of £630,000 is stated as intended to be chargeable on the territory in India totally apart from the revenues of the country. "It is a mistake" says Mr. Grant "to suppose that the debt increases the taxation of India, for the debt is paid with other means—indeed such is the gradual increase of revenue, despite the fluctuations of trade, that it is expected that in a few years the people will be wholly relieved from taxation." By this it would appear to be certain that the territorial revenue—estimated prospectively as sufficient not only to pay off the India debt and defray the charges of government, but to afford a surplus—was considered as the equitable and perpetual land rent of India. If this be really the case, we can only say that to our minds the fact greatly augments the arduous nature of the office which our Indian government is called upon to perform; that of speedily defining the extent of the demands of the state upon the cultivators of the soil throughout the whole of the provinces, and granting, in short, a settlement of the land revenue "permanent, fixed, and for ever," as Lord Cornwallis expresses it. This step would certainly do more than any other in tranquillizing the public mind in India, and putting an end to those discreditable proceedings which of late years appear to have had little effect but that of setting the wits of the many in direct opposition to the rapacity of the few, and of paralyzing the industry of the country pending the issue of the contention.

With respect, however, to what has been before urged on the subject of the supposed inducement which the peculiar nature of our dominion may hold out to a foreign enemy to endeavour to supplant us in it, we cannot avoid remarking that the principle of the state being the universal landlord, and consequently deriving the greater portion of its revenues from the produce of the soil, is one which strikes at the very root of all patriotism in the great body of the population. If a state be in the avowed enjoyment of such revenue, and that revenue be acknowledged sufficient to defray the necessary expenses incident to the government of the country and even to provide a surplus, it is clear that an enterprising enemy might attack it even with the declared intention of lessening the burthens of the people. The means, too, which such a condition of things affords the invader of tempting the disaffected to join his standard are very great—and, in point of fact history informs us that the chiefs by whom India has been conquered have, at various times, disposed of certain rich zemendaries to the traitors by whom their attacks were invited, or to the leading men of their own armies, long before the tracts so disposed of were brought under subjection—and without

apprehension that any opposition would be offered to the agents who were sent to take possession; and the reason is obvious—the actual occupant, knowing that the proprietary right vests in the ruler of the country, cares not to what intermediate authority he transfers his allegiance and pays his rent—he rather hopes to gain something by the confusion which the change of circumstances is likely to occasion. It is from these causes that the people of India have ever shewn so great a degree of apathy concerning the political struggles by which the country has been subjected to the rule of a greater variety of masters than probably any other on the face of the globe. The historian Robertson somewhere remarks that the inhabitants have been known to be in the peaceable and unconcerned occupation of cultivating their lands whilst within the sound and even view of a fierce conflict between two contending armies for possession of the province! This certainly would not have been the case had the land-tax formed only an inconsiderable portion of the revenues of the country, and admitted of being redeemed, so that every proprietor, being secured against all further demands upon the actual produce of his estate, would have an interest in improving it to the utmost and in establishing such reciprocal relations between landlord and tenant as would hold out to both parties a fair prospect of enjoying all the benefits of whatever capital, skill or industry they could respectively command.

On the military defence of India we have little to add. From what has been before argued, and from the great solicitude evinced by the principal powers of Europe for the preservation of peace—not, we are afraid, from the growing influence of peace Societies, but for more selfish, or at least prudential motives—our readers will see that we look upon that point as one of very secondary consideration. The President of the Board of Control, indeed, speaks of the military state of India, as if it were still uncertain how far the actual efficiency of its army was a matter of paramount importance—and as the notion seems to gain ground, among inexperienced men, that money constitutes the Dragon's teeth from the sowing of which armed warriors are to rise up in any required direction—without the trouble of instruction and training—we have little doubt that the Home Authorities contemplate the economical management of their resources even to the abandonment of some of those claims to political supremacy which the force of circumstances, and our peculiar position in India, have in a manner compelled us to assume. The internal improvement of the country as connected with its administration and the full developement of its means, now forms the almost exclusive object of attention; and there can be little doubt, we imagine, that as Lord Moira was sent out with a double commission twenty years ago to strengthen the military department, so now the appointment of Lord William Bentinck as Commander-in-Chief, is mainly with the view of giving greater freedom to the operations of the civil power of Government.

To complete the task, however, which we had chalked out for ourselves on commencing this paper, we have only to add, that the latest writer on the defence of India, Captain Head, although he dedicates a chapter exclusively to that subject has suggested little or nothing in addition to the details already furnished by the author of the "*Reflections on the Present State of British India*"—One of his observations, indeed, is important, as bearing upon those details and strengthening the statement which they give of the greater ease with which Russia could assemble fifty thousand men on the borders of the Punjab, than the Indian Government could advance a similar force to the banks of the Indus;—it is to the effect that we ought "to bear in mind that the marching of troops is from necessity suspended for three or four months of the year, or from June till the termination of the rainy season. *Nor should it be forgotten that the same source of obstruction does not extend to the countries North of the Himalya range.*" This inconvenience, however, has been greatly diminished by the opening of the navigation of the Indus, which we consider a master-stroke no less of political than commercial sagacity. But notwithstanding this great measure, aided as it of course will be by steam navigation, the assembling of a large force in the Punjab, and putting it into a state of efficiency to fit it for contending with an army composed chiefly of Europeans, and of Natives of Central India, would be a work of greater time, labour and expence than is generally imagined. On the subject there is a passage in the "*Reflections*" to the following effect—that there is reason to believe the peculiarities which appear to adapt the Natives of the Indian Army, for the performance of the duties which are now entrusted to them would in some measure incapacitate them for a conflict of a more stern and arduous nature:—When we first perused it we did not perceive the allusion, but on consideration we believe it must be intended to refer to the supposed effect of animal food and a portion of ardent spirits in enabling soldiers to bear the great and incessant fatigues to which they are exposed during an active campaign. Whether the theory here implied be correct, we shall not pretend to determine, but certainly abstaining from the articles of diet alluded to, which renders the Bengal sepoy so admirable a soldier in cantonments, might possibly be found to lessen his efficiency under circumstances of a much more trying nature to his strength and constitution. As to our own proper territory, it is not a country for continuous marching—nor is it a country for military positions, nor for maintaining large garrisons even of native, much less of European troops—Captain Head, however, appears to believe that not only will the Punjab be the seat of war in the event of an invasion, but that the Bengal army is recruited from that district. The characters, he tells us, of the population South of the Hindoo Coosh "may be on a par with their neighbours in the Punjab, or on the opposite side of the Indus in the same parallel of latitude; and it is well known that the British army in Hindoostan look to that part of India for their best recruits." This is a mistake, our

recruits come, for the most part, from a parallel of latitude at least five degrees to the Southward of that indicated by Captain H. nor, do we think that the men of the Punjâb would be at all acceptable either to the officers, or privates of a Bengal regiment of sepoys;—as independent corps, however, we have no doubt they would be valuable allies.

But, we repeat, we see no urgent cause for warlike preparation*. In the course of a few years we have no manner of doubt the invasion of British India by Russia will be as practicable as the invasion of Italy by Austria or France; but the same lapse of time that will be required to bring about such a state of things will have given the Indian government an opportunity of strengthening itself in that point where all national strength is greatest—in the hearts and affections of the people. Grant us but five or ten years to effect this great object, let the proposed fourth presidency arrange a permanent settlement for the upper provinces, and let attention be paid to the consolidation and improvement of the country generally, and particularly to the amelioration of the condition of the people, and the Russians may come when they list—they will always find us prepared to receive them with due military honours, and to send them back to their country by the shortest route and under the protection of a suitable escort.

THE BENGAL MEDICAL SERVICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EAST INDIAN UNITED SERVICE JOURNAL.

SIR,—The utility of such an article, as that contained in your 1st and 2d numbers, upon the Medical Service of Bengal, must mainly depend on the correctness of statements embodied in it. As numerous, and by no means slight, errors have appeared in the portion contained in your second number, I take up my pen to correct them.

Page 79.—“The Medicine Allowance was abolished in General Orders dated 29th November 1828.”

Page 80.—“And what did they get in lieu of 200 or 250 Rs. derived from the Medicine Allowance? The difference between the batta of Lieutenant and Captain. But even *this* may become affected by locality the moment the unfortunate Medico happens to be fixed at what the Government, for its own most liberal purposes, may determine and decree to be a half batta station.”

The writer correctly states the change that took place in 1828, but writing in 1833, omits to notice the modification adopted in 1831, by which the Juniors in lieu of 200 or 250 rupees Medicine Allowance, receive 165 rupees Staff Allowance, unaltered by removal to a half batta station.

This amendment, considerable, though it be, is no equivalent for the Medicine Allowance.

* Beyond the lion-like repose alluded to in the commencement of this article.

Page 82.—“A writer, ranking with an Assistant Surgeon, from the date of his arrival, in Bengal, receives 300 rupees a month, and has furnished quarters allowed him. The Assistant Surgeon until he joins a full batta station, gets, (if I am not mistaken) 170 rupees a month, and a delectable apartment in the General Hospital.”

Page 83.—“The Civilian after some five or six years more becomes a *Major*, or in other words a junior merchant, and at length, after seventeen years' service, retires upon a pension of £1000.”

Page 84.—“By the Army List the members of the Medical Board and the Superintending Surgeons, are, I believe, contemporary with Colonels and Lieutenant Colonels, officers respectively entitled to £1,300, and £900 per annum on retirement.”

Page 85.—“The Chaplain arrives in India at about the same age with the Medical man; and after a less expensive education, with the rank of Captain,” &c.

Page 86.—“If then I am rightly informed, Surgeons in the King's Service receive ten shillings a day, lodging money, rations, coals and candles, an European servant (private in the regiment), a cheap mess, and wine free from duty.”

An Assistant Surgeon at the General Hospital receives only Rupees 145...12 a month, from which Military and Orphan Fund Subscriptions are *nolens volens* deducted.

The Civilian cannot retire upon the pension until he shall have served twenty-two years in India, or twenty-five including Furlough.

No Lieutenant-Colonel on retirement receives more than £365 per annum.

A Chaplain on arrival ranks as Major, after seven years as Lieutenant-Colonel.

The following Table of Regimental Medical daily Pay of His Majesty's Service, copied from the Table on the *Home United Service Journal*, will show how erroneous an idea the writer has of the service with which he compares his own. He takes the pay of an Assistant for that of a Surgeon.

	s.	d.
Assistant Surgeon,.....	7	6
Ditto after 10 years service,	10	0
Surgeon not having served 10 years in a medical capacity,	13	0
Ditto after 10 years service in a medical capacity,	15	0
Ditto after 20 years ditto,	19	0
Ditto after 25 ditto ditto,	£1	2 0

Ten shillings or the pay of His Majesty's Assistant Surgeons has been and is the pay of a Surgeon in the Indian Army since 1798, and was

Page 86.—“ His Majesty’s Medical Service, I believe, contains the following grades :—

Director General.
Inspector General of Hospitals.
Inspector.
Deputy Inspector.
Physician to the Forces.
Surgeon to the Forces.
Staff Surgeon.
Ditto Assistant Surgeon.
Surgeon.
Assistant Surgeon.
Hospital Assistant.

The highest ranks as a Major General, the lowest as an Ensign.”

Page 87.—“ An officer in charge of two companies or more, draws equally for both ; while a Surgeon or Assistant Surgeon, if he should chance to have the charge of two corps in addition to his own, draws only for one ; so that the principle of giving additional emolument for increased labour seems to be entirely overlooked.”

then the pay of His Majesty’s Surgeons. The Board of Control and Directors have omitted to extend to their medical establishment, the benefit of the changes that have been from time to time adopted in His Majesty’s Army, on which the Indian Army has been modelled, the claim to which by the Indian medical establishment cannot be doubted.

The following have been the grades in His Majesty’s Army for some years.

Director General.
Principal Inspector General.
Inspector General.
Deputy Inspector General.
Assistant Inspector General.
Staff Surgeon.
Ditto Assistant Surgeon.
Surgeon.
Assistant Surgeon.
Hospital Assistant.

The highest ranks as Brigadier General.

A Surgeon in charge of a corps in addition to his own, draws Rs. 12-8 per hundred men for the second corps, or receives, for performing the duties of the absent Surgeon who drew 300 Rs. about 45 Rs., and this trifle is for performing exactly a double duty. This trifle too of Rs. 12-8 per hundred men, is not very much greater than what Government allows Veterinary Surgeons for the charge of horses of Regiments or Troops beyond their own, for they receive Rs. 12-7 per hundred horses !!!—an insult to the feelings of the native soldiery and the medical department. The labor of a medical man towards

the *human species* in distress or to wards the *brute creation* is estimated by the Government at, one hundredth part of an anna in favor of the former!!!

Page 88.—“ It is a very hard grievance upon the Assistant Surgeons, that where they formerly received 200 rupees, or 250 a month certain, they now only get 60 rupees in addition to their personal pay.”

For sixty rupees read one hundred and sixty-five, which Assistant Surgeons “now get in addition to their personal pay.”

Page 89.—“ When the Assistant Surgeon has arrived at the rank of Surgeon, his situation certainly becomes improved. He has the advantage of a small increase of pay, tent allowance and gratuity, and the difference between a Captain and Major's batta.”

The writer on promotion would find himself mistaken, if he trusted to his own statement, for the increase to form his staff allowance of 300 Rs. is, (instead of the difference of Captain and Major's batta which is Rs. 274), the difference between 300 and 165 or 135 rupees.

Having corrected the unintentional errors of your correspondent C—, in conclusion I beg to add what appears to me to be the greatest injustice which the Medical officers of the Indian Army have to complain of. All military officers of the Indian Army, who are available for very numerous lucrative staff and political employs, on retirement receive a pension equal to the *full pay* of officers of their own grade in His Majesty's Army in England: whereas Surgeons of the Indian Army retire on a pension equal only to the pay of an Assistant Surgeon in His Majesty's Army in England. Surgeons on retirement should also have the full pay of officers of their grade viz. A Surgeon of twenty years 15s., of twenty-five years 19s., of thirty years £1 2s. per diem. Superintending Surgeons £500 per annum, and Members of the Board £700.

October 1833.

A WELL-WISHER.



BENGAL ARMY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EAST INDIAN UNITED SERVICE JOURNAL.

SIR,—Having observed in the *Englishman* of the 2nd instant, an article headed “INDIAN ARMY,” stated to be taken from the *Bombay Gazette* of the 14th ultimo, I wish through the medium of your journal to call attention to it, and will therefore trouble you with a few observations on the article in question*.

In the first place, it states, that a reduction of twelve regiments at the three presidencies is to be made, which alone, I should suppose, would be sufficient to prove that the intelligence cannot possibly be, as stated, on good authority—for every person at all conversant with this country, and the present reduced state of the army must very well know, that any reduction of the kind is not only impracticable, but that the Force at this (Bengal) presidency, at any rate is actually altogether inadequate for the common maintenance of the peace within our own provinces, or the security of our own subjects from open violence and plunder—and that consequently, for any purposes of war, or such like contingency, if not indeed for the due preservation of our own provinces and subjects now, an immediate and considerable increase would become indispensable.

This I say from positive conviction of the fact, as under the present unequal state of the army in regard to promotion, a reduction of the nature alluded to, would probably prove rather beneficial than otherwise to a vast number of old and unfortunate officers of all ranks who would thus necessarily regain their proper standing, as it would, as an inevitable matter of course, occasion the reposting of all the officers in the army, and so give every one his place (*his rightful place*), according to his length of service and army rank, and which, though no more than common justice, they do not at present appear, owing to the apparent apathy of Government, likely to regain.

The point, however, to which I am anxious to draw particular attention, is the visionary scheme therein mentioned for promoting our native officers to the rank and command of Field Officers and Captains! as it, I conceive, must have been taken from our arch enemy, the *London United Service Journal*, in which a similar one appeared about two years ago. The reasons, or rather specious pretexts offered in the *London Journal* above quoted, for such a measure, were to attach the native soldiery more firmly to our interests!—the *real*, but concealed ones doubtless, to degrade this army, and bring it down to a level with the Malay or African Negro Corps in His Majesty's service—to render it in fact a mere Colonial Volunteer

* The article referred to will be found amongst our selections.—Ed.

Army, which in a few years, were such a measure adopted, would become unfit for any other purpose than that of mere internal police, and *thereby ere long render more King's Troops necessary!!!*

Yes, Mr. Editor, the quality of young gentlemen that now come out as Cadets to this army, would quickly deteriorate till at length we should see deserving Sergeants getting commissions in it instead of Sergeant Major and Quarter Master Sergeantships, though even they would not long agree with their native commandants, as it is notorious that no Europeans can bear being under the command of natives.

Only fancy an officer, a gentleman of birth, education, and high feeling, such as our army is at present principally composed of, being exercised on parade under a Sahadar Colonel! or going to make his report of pay his respects to one! or getting a reprimand (in which, agreeable to the Asiatick mode, he might perchance hear strange things about his female relations) before the whole regiment, which as a necessary consequence must be in Hindostanee, as the famous *London Tory Journal*, has not as yet, that I have heard, devised any method for teaching our old worn out native officers to speak English;—and this it might probably find it somewhat difficult to do, as our native soldiery are not fond of learning, in proof of which I have only to mention, that it has hitherto been found impossible to persuade them even to learn to read and write their own language, though a General Order was issued to that effect by Sir Edward Paget, directing that after a certain period none should be promoted who could not. A stronger stimulus could not well have been devised,—nevertheless and in spite of it however, and of teachers being furnished by Government to whom a mere trifle is required to be paid by the men, it is my firm belief, that not a single *grown up* sepoy (for there are some boys) has ever attended a Regimental School: at all events I can speak of some five or six regiments, with which I have either done duty, or am well acquainted.

It has been very generally considered to have been a great error the giving our native officers the commissions they now have, and it is thought that they would have been better without, allowing them of course the same names, duties, (excepting that of sitting on Courts Martial for which they are utterly unfit *and also unworthy*) rates of pay, and invalid pensions they now enjoy. But to promote them not only to a level, but *above* European Officers would at one fell blow annihilate the native idea of the superiority of the European character, destroy the very foundation stone of our native army, and ere long our empire of opinion in the East!

“Better leave good alone.”

It is idle talking of what is being done in the Civil Departments in the way of promoting natives; in the first place it has not yet been long enough in operation to prove whether the system works well; in the second, there

is no affinity;—why the very sepoy himself has no reliance on their native officers,—many of whom are, I grieve to say it, disreputable, and almost all worn out old idiots ! Native Officers have none of those high chivalric and honorable ideas supposed to be implanted in the breast of every man bearing a commission. It is an utter farce to suppose it ! Who, that has ever seen these worthies on a Court Martial does not very well know that without considerable prompting from the Deputy Judge Advocate or European Officer Superintending, there is no chance of any thing like justice being done.

In the Civil Departments moreover, natives of some family, rank and respectability of character, combined with education and ability are the only ones promoted to high situations. The common burkundazs or jail chupprassies are not, I presume, the men selected for Deputy Collectors or Sudder Aumeens !

In the army *all* native officers rise from the ranks.

A more insidious (and at the same time absurd) proposition was never made than this one of checquering us black and white like a backgammon board.

There has of late been a vast rage for innovations of every kind, and they have perhaps already gone too far, beyond the capacity of our native subjects to bear, or, at least properly understand. We, as a nation, are always too apt to forget that what suits Englishmen in their present enlightened state, may not exactly answer for other countries having different customs, and being in a very inferior state of advancement in civilization ! It is to be hoped however, that this innovating rage may not be applied to the native army, as so long as that is left alone, the danger of eternal changes and experiments may not be so great.

This army has already sufficiently suffered in one very severe shock to its discipline, and not to that, I am sorry to say, *alone* ; but likewise to the *good and kindly feeling* which formerly existed between our sepoy and their European Officers (owing to which amongst other benefits, any mutinies that have ever taken place on this side of India have been unattended with violence or bloodshed) by this same rage for improvement and alteration. I allude to Lord Combermere's most absurd and highly injudicious order taking away from officers in situations of command, the authority vested in them by the articles of war and consequently by parliament, of *confirming their own Courts Martial*. Officers were thereby placed in the monstrous position of being responsible for the state of the men under them, whilst at the same time all power over them was taken from them, their hands were completely tied up ! Never was there a greater absurdity, or a grosser mistake than to suppose sepoy can be so kept in order. Human nature is still human nature whether black or white, and though our sepoy have not, generally speaking, the same descriptions of vices that Europeans have, yet they

have their own, and are peculiarly cunning and observant; they therefore quickly discovered the want of authority in their own officers, *and, as with natives*, "want of power, is want of respectability," very shortly began to take liberties with, and despise them in consequence. They, in fact felt themselves (as they literally were) freed from all restraint, as even if brought to a Court Martial, they were pretty sure of escaping, as General Officers (who, strange to say, seldom support Commanding Officers or pay any attention to their wishes or recommendations) generally remitted any punishment awarded. But they were moreover seldom brought to trial, as Commanding Officers being naturally averse to making displays of their own want of authority, passed over, and winked hard at deeds that should never have been suffered to pass. This may have been wrong, but it was natural, and considering the very little support, Officers Commanding Regiments ever did, or do receive from General Officers Commanding Divisions, was not to be wondered at. What officer could possibly feel comfortable at bringing a man to trial, when he knew it would in all probability end in his own shame, as assuredly it is always considered by the men in a regiment, whenever any one of them get what *they conceive* to be a victory over their Commanding Officers. And it was besides under that regulation actually a shame, as all Courts Martial being explained on parade, it was of course continually explained that the court had found so and so guilty of the charge preferred against him, and sentenced him to say 150 lashes, which your Commanding Officer has approved, but the General has remitted the punishment, sometimes and indeed often, without assigning any reason, and though the prisoner might be a known bad character, and at other times owing to some trifling informality in the proceedings, which was of no real moment, had better not have been noticed, and which the sepoys seldom or ever can comprehend. Did it not follow that the men must come to the conclusion, that either their own Commanding Officer was inclined to be unnecessarily severe, or that his judgement was deficient? Of course it did—as they saw the General always differed in opinion with him, and they (the men) it is well known always decide in favor of the greatest, i. e. the most powerful sepoys were also thus taught to look over their own officer altogether, and up to a higher power, than which nothing could have a more mischievous tendency in an army composed of the materials this is.

The consequence of all this was a gradual estrangement between officers and men, and an undermining of all discipline on the part of the men, and zeal on that of the officers. Where men know there is an authority *on the spot* to punish them, they will be chary of arousing it, whereas a *distant* authority is not so much (or even sufficiently) dreaded or felt. Who either can be so good a judge of the necessity or otherwise for an example as the officer on the spot? Who else can be so intimately acquainted with the characters of the individuals? And moreover, surely the quicker punishment follows crime, especially in the army, the better: it never ~~was~~ was, or could be, speedy under that ill-omened regulation.

There is, I am aware, a very General dislike to the punishment of flogging, but I maintain that without it, this army cannot be kept in proper order. Fortunately, comparatively with any other army very little is requisite : but it is nevertheless absolutely requisite that the Officer Commanding *on the spot* should have the power vested in him of inflicting it when necessary—and that the *men should know he has it*. *This is more necessary in this army than in any other*—if an Officer is over severe, which however few are, he can be checked by the General Officer Commanding the Division to whom the proceedings of all Courts Martial are sent. Europeans could be much better managed without corporal punishment, than natives, because there are various other modes of *severely* punishing them, whereas there is absolutely no other way of punishing for grave offences a sepoy, drill and extra duty being only adapted to trifling offences. Fining is not legal, and it would, I think, be unwise to introduce it as though it is a punishment they would, I admit, feel severely, yet, as money is their God, the less their pockets are touched the better. Solitary confinement would be no punishment to a native, as, owing to caste, you would be obliged to let them out once at least every day to bathe, cook, pray &c. ; and besides a Native would roll himself up and quietly slumber away his time, so that in lieu of becoming emaciated as an European does, he would rejoin as fat and sleek as an Alderman. Putting them to work on the roads, or in irons, would be contrary to their prejudices, and *too degrading* for a man ever to get on well in a regiment who had undergone it. Simple discharge from the service would be a punishment to old men who have nearly served their time for the invalids, or are near the top of the rolls and therefore to promotion, but not to young ones, more particularly if the regiment happened to be stationed in a disagreeable part of the country, as they would just visit their homes and then enlist again in some other corps ; and this it is quite impossible to prevent, as though it is always well known in a regiment if a man has been in another corps or not, and to both the commissioned and non commissioned officers, yet they never give or would give information, particularly if the individual was of high caste. There are besides so many regulations now a days that nothing is left to the discretion of an officer ; it was not thus in former times when this army gained all its laurels and when (as is well known,) the sepoys were much more attached to their European Officers than they now are. An officer at the head of a regiment now is a mere automaton, and can get through the duties of commanding it without *troubling his own head* ! Whatever happens, he has only to desire his staff, to refer to the regulations. Nothing but Law and Regulations now, the least infringement of which is likely to be forthwith complained of by any sepoy for they have discovered that all complaints are most readily listened to, and not unfrequently given against their superior officer,—all very fine doubtless and well calculated for Europeans, but whether it is so or not for our sepoys, is another point, which may some future day, in time of war, and need,

perhaps, be settled in a way our rulers in this country may not altogether approve of.

For the present moment, however, happily for this army the Commander-in-Chief has rescinded in part at least, this ruinous Combermere Regulation. He did so about one year after he got the command of the army, and had time to see the pernicious effects of it.

Now, therefore, officers in command are once more justly responsible for the discipline of their corps and detachments, and now again get the benefit of all punishments they remit, and no doubt the good effects of this will shortly be evidenced in the altered condition of the army, both as to its internal economy, discipline and *feeling*.

There remains, however, still too much unnecessary restriction on inferior courts, by which I mean all inferior to a General Court Martial in the native army, for it does not extend to the European.

The punishments adjudgeable by them, being most inconveniently limited by the operation of the said Combermere restrictive orders respecting corporal punishments, which still go to such an extravagant length, as to compel the courts sometime to have recourse to the miserable expedient of sentencing to drill and extra duty! a wretched shift!—tending to bring Courts Martial themselves into ridicule and contempt, and besides a Commanding Officer can order such punishments without the intervention of a Court. This will, it is to be hoped, be taken into consideration at Army Head-Quarters.

To Sir E. Barnes, however, this army is indebted for two good actions—*real improvements*, viz. the rescinding, in part at least, this absurd General Order of Lord Combermere's, and recommending, (as 'tis said he has) the issue of the Brevet rank of Major to old Captains.

Our new Chief will now it is to be hoped prove in *deeds* as friendly to us, as we have always been given to understand he has been in *words*, and the state, in almost every respect, of this unfortunate army affords a wide field for him. Hitherto we have only known Lord William as one whose *actions* have been any thing but friendly: now it is to be prayed—or God help us—that having been nominated to the Command of the Army under the particular favorable circumstance of having no Governor General to thwart, or contend with him, and every opportunity thereby afforded him of shewing his kindly feelings, that it will be proved that all we have so long been accustomed to hear regarding his good will, is not "*vox et preterea nihil*" and that it will shew itself in something better than "*nascetur ridiculus mus*"

October.

ANONYMOUS.

NOTE.—We insert the foregoing in observance of the principle which shall ever guide our conduct of this journal—impartiality, and a desire to promote the discussion of important questions. In doing so, however, we must enter our individual protest against many of the writers' opinions regarding the sepoy, commanding officers and corporal punishment. We are decidedly at issue with him, on these points, and shall take an early opportunity of shewing the "why and because."—Ed.

POETRY.

Napoleon's Soliloquy during a stormy night from the rock of St. Helena.

I love thee dark and rolling deep !
 Roused by the chainless wind,
 Thy thunders lull my soul to sleep,
 Thy lightnings light my mind ;
 Between me and yon rising moon
 Ten thousand billows roar,
 They shake their crests as sheaves in June,
 Their drooping clusters hoar.

Methought I saw my lancers light,
 The men of Lodi's bridge,
 Awaiting calmly that dread fight
 Behind yon shelving ridge ;
 But ah ! no lance's flash was there,
 They were the moon's pale beams,
 The hearts that did that glory share
 But meet me in my dreams.

Yes, one by one, o'er hill and heath
 They fell at victory's call,
 As leaves from off a laurel wreath
 By ceaseless waving fall ;
 They lent the vines of Italy
 Glad autumn's purple hue,
 For they gave the blood of chivalry
 To mingle with its dew.

Red lightnings flash ! high billows roar !
 And dun clouds roll around !
 Wake fancy wake, nor want we more
 Than the trumpet's thrilling sound ;
 Through mem'ry then, my soul, we'll see
 That bright tumult'ous day,
 When the eagle banner floated free
 Above the crest of Ney.

* *Le Brave ! Le Brave !* I hear thy shout,
 Thy deaf'ning battle cry,
 That certain prelude to the rout
 Of those who feared to die ;
 But ah ! thy breath shall swell no more
 That mighty flood of war,
 Which like the waves against this shore
 Rolled fiercely from afar.

* Often applied by Napoleon to Ney.

No thundering cannon rang thy knell,
Nor thine *Mon beau Sabreur*;^{*}
Alike he fought, alike he fell,
Alike ye shall endure
Endure,—as long as history's page
A record bright shall be,
Of those who fall in every age
For fame and liberty.

Stay, stay, my soul ! the yawning deep
With laughter shakes her breast,
She spies upon this lovely keep
The far famed eagle's crest ;
That crest, which to the ocean bent,
Nor feared another's sway,
Whose plumes her own proud sons have rent,
And rudely cast away.

She mocks me now ! " Thou fettered king !
" Thou royal bird so fair !
" Who stayed thy flight ? who framed thy wing ?
" And cast thee helpless there ?"
Avaunt the sight ! lash-raging sea,
Thy surges o'er this rock,
Nor deem I wear contentedly
This gilded fetter lock.

B. I.

LIEUTENANT COLONELS COMMANDANT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EAST INDIAN UNITED SERVICE JOURNAL.

SIR,—Your correspondent "PERICLES," in your last number, does not appear to have been aware that the adjunct of "commandant" to the grade of Lieutenant-Colonel, conferred no additional rank whatever on the professor, but was merely added to shew that the individual commanded a regiment in his own right, in the same manner as the "Captain of a troop" or "Company" commands a smaller body. An order from the King prohibited the Honourable Company from promoting their officers to the rank of Colonel, to "prevent," as PERICLES observes, "the supercession of His Majesty's Lieutenant-Colonels." The former, consequently, could only obtain the rank of Colonel by the Royal Brevet, as in the General Brevet of 1829. The operation of the order caused an immense supercession of the Company's Officers by those of His Majesty, and was further partially injurious among the former, to the extent PERICLES complains of. Its

^{*} Murat.

injustice, however, became so manifest, that it was at length done away, and the Company's Officers are now promoted to Colonelcies as often as vacancies occur.

The effect of the order, however, still remains on those Lieutenant-Colonels Commandant whose promotion was stopped during its operation—as they could not *then*, as Colonels, repass younger officers, of whatever arm, who, from a more rapid regimental, or line, rise, in their own branch, had outrun them in the race of promotion, so they still remain below them in the gradation list. This, however, seems so self-evident an injustice, that I am persuaded nothing more is wanting than a judicious memorial, briefly stating the case, to obtain for them the *back rank* which is so clearly their due.

22d October, 1833.

THERON.

MILITARY AUTO-BIOGRAPHY.

(Continued from page 125.)

To a man arriving from England, as I did, in the midst of the rainy season, the first appearance of few places in the world, I should imagine, could impress the mind with a more fearful mixture of surprise and gloom than that of Calcutta, at such a period. In the hot season it is bad enough in all conscience—but in the rainy it is worse. It is, at first at least, quite terrific. In these respects,—I mean with regard to the frightful nature of two out of our three Indian seasons, the city of palaces reminds us of the commencement of Johnson's *Rasselas*, where he describes the feelings of the Prince of Abyssinia in the Happy Valley. When its gates are, as it were, thrown open at the beginning of the cold season, all is mirth and gaiety and happiness,—every one brings himself to imagine that such delight must be perpetual, and those who pay their yearly visit from England at that time, leave the place with regret at their inability to remain and pass their lives in so agreeable a retirement. But no sooner have our visitors departed, than he who yearns after the healthful and exhilarating exercise of body and mind, from which during the remainder of the year, he is almost entirely debarred in this ungenial clime, begins to find the intermediate seasons tedious and gloomy—"he discovers within himself no power of perception which is not glutted with its proper pleasure—and yet he does not feel himself delighted. He has some latent sense for which this place affords no gratification, or he has some desires, distinct from sense, which must be satisfied before he can be happy."

This first impression, which I have endeavoured to describe, is solely the effect of contrast. Arriving off Madras in the month of July, the weather, to us at least, was delightful, and our onward passage up the Bay of Bengal

was particularly smooth and agreeable—a south-westerly breeze, whilst it wafted the ship along at a prodigious rate, kept the air at a refreshing temperature, and scarcely a cloud was to be seen till we had passed the Sand-head, and penetrated into the ‘bowels of the land,’ as far as Diamond Harbour. But no sooner was I fairly launched upon the bosom of the river than everything appeared to change. A sultry moist and steamy atmosphere led me almost to imagine that I was voyaging on the Phlegethon instead of the Hooghly—and the rain descended in such deluges, accompanied by such vivid flashes of lightening and awfully loud peals of thunder, as to add to the illusion, and make me believe that if not already in the infernal regions I was at least on the high road towards them. A storm of this description assailed the boat in which I proceeded from the ship to Calcutta, just as we arrived at the wharf, and it was some hours before we could attempt to land. I had prepared myself to leap on shore, but the weather loured so rapidly that I was constrained to reseat myself; and the boatmen, after securing a hold upon the bank, which operation seemed to be one of no small difficulty, came running into my little cabin with such an appearance of dismay, that I thought the crashing of the elements was as strange and unexpected to them as it was to myself. Their almost naked condition—together with their awe-stricken countenances and shivering, timid deportment, affected me with the liveliest sensations of pity, and I made room for them in my confined apartment with unfeigned commiseration for the combination of wretchedness and ignorance which their whole behaviour so clearly indicated. I regretted nothing more than my inability to speak their language—for I might otherwise have assuaged their fears by explaining the phenomena of thunder and lightening, and, besides exhorting them to rely upon Providence for their safety, taught them the most prudent method of conducting themselves so as to lessen the chance of their coming in contact with the electric fluid. But this admirable opportunity of philosophising was quite lost to me—and I had good reason to regret the circumstance, for in my anxiety to afford the crew of my little boat all possible shelter from the inclemency of the weather, I forgot that my purse was lying upon my sea chest,—which had served me for a table,—and when the rain had ceased and I prepared to land, it was no where to be found! Doubtless, if I could have spoken their language and shewn myself willing to instruct those poor boatmen, they, in return, would have requited me by taking care of my property—but, as it was, they could not read my thoughts, and believing, no doubt, that I cared nothing about them, they gave themselves no concern about my unhappy purse.

This, I must confess, was what is called a damper on my first appearance in Calcutta—but I did not immediately suffer any inconvenience from my mishap, for almost the instant I set my foot on shore I was accosted by some very well dressed natives, apparently of a superior class, who obligingly

offered to shew me to the best house for the accommodation of strangers—to take charge of my luggage—and even to pay my boatmen. They all spoke English with the utmost volubility—fluency seems to me to be a term too weak to express that union of rapidity and copiousness which their language exhibited. They behaved towards me with the most engaging frankness and good humour, as if they had long known me, at least by character, but at the same time they were so respectful in their demeanour that the high-sounding titles with which they greeted me seemed only to be the natural consequence of the impression which my dignified presence had made upon their minds—and far, very far, from that cringing servility which I had been taught to expect from the natives of India. In spite of my better judgment I could not help believing that I had arrived in a country where the character and complexion of an Englishman were sure passports to rank and distinction. My new friends, it is true, were, under any supposable case, a little inclined to hyperbole—but this I attributed to the genius of their language; for, after all, said I, they are speaking in a foreign tongue and do but translate the thoughts which occur to their oriental imaginations.—Sometimes, indeed, I was tempted to interrupt them, and to exclaim, “Really, my good Sirs, you quite mistake me, I am no Lord, but only a simple Cadet.”—But I do not know how it is, there is such a natural feeling of pleasure at being rated above our real condition—it seems so clearly to point out that the discerning few, at least, are more just towards us than Dame Fortune has thought proper to be—that I gave up the project as useless—and suffered myself, with all my blushing honours full about me, to be quietly marshalled to my temporary residence at Parr’s hotel—the very respectable designation by which a shabby curry-coloured house at the corner of Clive-street was then known.

Here, however, my adventitious rank forsook me as suddenly as it had been obtained—I again became plain *Mister*:—my late flatterers I found were *employés* in the service of the tavern keeper; and their gratuitous kindness in loading themselves with my great coat, bundle, &c. and in procuring porters for the rest of my baggage was afterwards acknowledged by him in the most commendably liberal manner when he presented his bill on my quitting his hospitable roof. How long it was before this occurred—or how my time passed whilst in this Circean abode, I have now little recollection;—eating, drinking and billiards, I believe, filled up the entire of the day. Fortunately for us all—for there were several other young men at the tavern who had arrived about the same time with myself—the demon Cholera was then unknown, or how we could possibly have escaped him it is difficult to conjecture. Fruit of all kinds, and at all hours, ripe, unripe, and over-ripe—liquor of every sort that our inclination or vanity prompted us to call for, at meals,—and a most abominable compound of villainous Madeira, sugar and lime-juice, caked Sangoree, all day long! In this horrible place I must have re-

mained three or four days, when our host, who was a discreet man, observing by sundry symptoms, not to be mistaken by a practised eye such as his, that our purses were becoming rather low, suggested, of his own accord, the expediency of our looking out for other quarters. To the military heroes, in particular, he recommended an immediate visit to the Town Major of Fort William, and I accordingly, accompanied by a Cadet who was destined for the Cavalry, proceeded to the Calcutta gateway of the Fort—having first discharged my bill, and procured the escort of one of the tavern-keeper's people, for the protection of our baggage, which in the long line which it made in attempting to keep pace with our palanquins, formed a very characteristic procession as we passed through the town and across the esplanade.

When we reached the Calcutta gateway of the Fort and enquired for the Town Major, we were shewn into a tolerably spacious apartment, in the centre of which, under a punkah, sat a pale-looking person at his writing desk, so absorbed in the business before him that he did not raise his eyes from the paper for several minutes after we had been announced. Doubtless, we thought, he was penning some important despatch, and we therefore stood very meekly before him awaiting cap in hand till he had leisure to attend to us. At length, having come to a pause in his work, he turned briskly to us, and fixing his eyes upon my companion, who happened to be nearest to him, "And pray, Sir," said he in no very agreeable a tone, "what may your business be?" We made our bows, and, telling him we were Cadets, gave him our papers, and said we had been recommended to apply to him for quarters in the Fort. "Aye, very well," was the reply, and, calling somebody in attendance by his name, "Here,—take them to Captain Blunt"—then making an almost imperceptible inclination of his head to our second bow and "thank you, Sir," he resumed his penmanship. By this time the reader will no doubt have anticipated that the individual who had favoured us with this brief audience was no other than Colonel Calcraft the Town-Major—but he is mistaken—it was a much greater personage. "The Colonel must have a great deal to do," said I to the Serjeant who was conducting us down-stairs; "he looked very pale I thought."—"The Colonel!" said the man, "why, Lord bless your honour, that was nobody but our Serjeant-Major Jones, though to be sure, he rides it with as high a hand as the Governor himself."—"A Serjeant-Major?" said my companion, who was a choleric little man, and had moreover hinted to us that this was not his first appearance in the military profession,— "a Serjeant-Major!—the scoundrel! I'll go back and lay my whip across his shoulders for his impertinence." I, however, who thought his anger very unreasonable—having, in fact, no very distinct notion of the difference between a Serjeant-Major and a Town-Major, did all I could to pacify him, and luckily succeeded, or Heaven knows what might have been the consequence, for Jones was the Colonel's right hand

man, and any violence offered to him would not have failed to be deeply resented.

To Captain Blunt, the Barrack-master, then, we suffered ourselves quietly to be conducted,—a little sallow, cross, but sharp-looking man, who kept his office in a miserable bomb-proof under the north barrack. This gentleman was a little, and only a little, more civil than our friend the staff serjeant, and my companion, either smarting under his recent mortification, or, possibly, thinking he had the same description of person to deal with, assumed a manner by no means calculated to conciliate his good-will. It was to this circumstance, perhaps, that we owed our being both crammed into one room in the south barrack instead of having each a room to himself. A key serjeant was ordered to conduct us to our new abode; and by the mode in which he fulfilled his commission—walking before us with a native carrying a huge bunch of keys at his elbow—we had very much the appearance of run-away youths who had just been apprehended and consigned to the house of correction.

At length, however, we were deposited within the four, bare badly white-washed walls of our desolate apartment. We had not an article of furniture, but by means of our large sea-chests and one of our cots we could manage to arrange one decent bed, the other cot being placed on the floor as the only available position for it, and during the day our chests were to serve us as both tables and chairs. When the bearers and coolies, who had assisted us in these operations, had disappeared, we sat down to enjoy our independence with much the same sort of feeling that Alexander Selkirk must have experienced when, though monarch of all he surveyed, he did not exactly know where to get a dinner. The exertion we had gone through, together with the length of time that had elapsed since our breakfast, produced a sensation of hunger which we were at a loss how to appease—the libations of Sangoree, and the ever-laden sideboard of the tavern, which had rather created our wants than satisfied them, were now no longer within our reach, and how to supply their place we were utterly unacquainted. In this very agreeable predicament we bethought ourselves of looking out upon the verandah of the barrack in search of somebody who might at least be able to tell us if any eating-house or pastry-cook shop was in the neighbourhood—for we possessed some little money if we could only find where to exchange it for something better calculated to keep life and soul together. But we were not long kept in suspense on this head. At our door we discovered a man who had apparently followed us to our new abode, in the expectation of being taken into service; he spoke English well enough to make himself understood in essentials, and, in reply to our enquiries, did not hesitate to promise us all we required almost without the trouble of cookery. Delightful news! We were surely the fortunate

possessors of Alladin's lamp; and in a space of time, which even to our craving appetites did not seem long, some of the most savoury dishes I ever recollect to have tasted of were placed before us—kid chops, a grilled fowl, and a Bombay pudding redolent with butter and brown sugar!—add to this potatoes, which we did not think it necessary to scrutinize too closely, and bread so soft and spongy that we imagined our good genius had commissioned the newest French rolls expressly for our accommodation. What he gave us to drink, I really cannot now recollect; but it was no doubt of excellent flavour, for even at this distant period, I can recall to my mind the happy and contented feeling with which we lay down after our repast, and the speed with which our conversation on the military renown we might be destined to acquire, gave place to the most profound slumber.

How long we continued in this situation, I know not, but the sun was in the East when we awoke, and as it had been rapidly descending when we sat down to our dinner, it required no great stretch of the reasoning faculty to conclude that we had slept through the whole night. Still we had evidently overlooked the formalities usually attendant upon the operation of going to bed—we were completely dressed; and this circumstance alone was sufficient to occasion us no small degree of puzzlement. "What's o'clock?" said my companion. I pulled out my watch, but it had stopped!—"what does yours say?" I asked.—He looked a little embarrassed, and then turning pale as death, replied in a stifled tone, "I can't find it—it's gone!—and my brouch too, and"—dipping his hand upon his pockets—"my purse with them." The truth instantly flashed upon us. The good genius who at our bidding had so quickly furnished out our feast of the preceding evening, had dissolved the enchantment by paying himself with my friend's trinkets, and had taken leave of our service. In some measure to palliate his crime, however, I must here mention, that my companion, upon whom almost the whole loss had fallen, was what was then styled a great blood, (the term *dandy* is a modern barbarism without point or meaning,—whereas *blood* was appropriate, for it clearly indicated that though the breed might be good in other respects, it certainly wanted *bottom*). He was somewhat older than was then usual among Cade's, and had evidently seen a good deal of the world, his talk was that of a man who had been accustomed to a certain degree of splendour, and I quite longed to see him fairly settled if it were only to have an opportunity of admiring the liveries he purposed putting his servant into, and the fine stud of horses he was to provide himself with. Every night he used to pull off a hair chain which he wore round his neck, and to which a handsome gold brooch was attached—an evidence, he hinted, of his *bonnes fortunes*—this, together, with his watch and seals, which were also very handsome, and his purse, he used to deposit by his bed-side, close to a huge cavalry sword which he had brought out with him, and which he would now and then speak of, as if it was a

weapon familiar to his arm, although, he would add with an attempt at sighing, he was now only a Cadet. Some of us, at the tavern, had more than once advised him to place his valuables under his pillow—but his answer had always been, “Nonsense, I should like to see the fellow who would dare to touch any of them when that good sword is lying close to them, and within my reach.” And sure enough it was, that at the tavern he never missed anything; but in the Fort, it unfortunately turned out differently—I suppose because its inhabitants were more accustomed to the sight of warlike instruments than the more peaceable inmates of the city,—or perhaps in the arrangement which I have described, and which had been adopted from habit even on the night in question, the array of gold and silver was so great as to throw into the shade the mere parade of cold-iron in the cavalry sword, which, if I recollect right, was not drawn,—or, it is not impossible, the servant when he returned early in the morning to prepare our breakfast, may have been too weak to withstand the temptation before him, and only refrained from taking the sword itself, because it was less easily to be disposed of. Certain it is, he took nothing but the trinkets—our writing-desks were safe, but unhappily they contained no riches, for, relying on my friend’s superior experience, I had given the little money that remained to me into his charge, and we had agreed to live together and make common purse, under his management, until we were sent to our respective regiments.

What was now to be done? On going into the verandah to enquire for our departed genius the people who sat at their master’s doors, as if alarmed at our vehemence, refused to answer any of our questions—and several of them ran away as fast as their legs could carry them. In short, we could obtain no information whatever, and were obliged to return to our miserable apartment to reflect upon the best mode of remedying our misfortune. By this time, however, it was growing late, and my stomach, as honest Sancho hath it, began very urgently to call out “cupboard”—and although neither cash nor domestic could be found, it was some alleviation of my misery that the fragments of our late collation remained just as they had been left the night before. The non-descript knives and forks, &c. with which we had been furnished from the Commissariat of Welsh and Stalker of Cheapside, under the name of a canteen, were there, and so were our horn mugs, and the wretched crockery which our servant had made a shift to procure. For the moment, therefore, we had reason to be thankful that matters were no worse; and, making a merit of necessity, I attacked the residue of our loaves, and endeavoured to find them as delicious as they had been the previous night, slaking my thirst with a fluid which though nothing but water, did not quite deserve the epithet *crystal*, which the admirers of the pure element are so fond of bestowing upon it. During this time, and notwithstanding all my praises, I could not persuade my poor friend to taste a morsel—he said he was not hungry, and I, sincerely commiserating

his misfortune, so much greater than my own, resolved not to press him, but to place everything within his view, so as to tempt him (Heaven knows the temptation, in this instance at least, was not overpowering) as soon as his mind should be more at ease. But in the course of the day, he became worse, and I—shall I confess it?—oh human nature, what scurvy tricks thou mak'st us play one another!—I actually felt no inconsiderable consolation that under these circumstances the remainder of our provender would enable me once again to satisfy the cravings of my appetite, which, had my friend been able to partake of, it would by no means have been the case. Towards the evening, however, things began to assume a more serious aspect—my friend was in a raging fever, and I, believing him to be at the point of death, again sallied out of our den, and, by dint of repeating “Doctor, Doctor,” to every body I met, got myself shewn to the quarters of the Garrison Assistant Surgeon, Dr. Cheesc, which, after all, were almost next door to us. This gentleman was just stepping out of his buggy on his return from visiting his patients, and very good humouredly told me to lead the way to my friend's room. The examination was a very short one, and it was with the feelings almost of a culprit, who is acquitted of a crime, of which he feels conscious he is guilty, that I heard the medical gentleman's opinion, that the case was not at all dangerous; for, in my anxiety, I had begun to imagine that my poor companion was dying as much from starvation as from any other cause. On this latter score, however, my mind was so completely set at ease that when the Doctor went away, telling me he would send some medicine for the sick man, I, without scruple, attacked the slender remnant of our store, and despatched them even to the very bones—betaking myself to rest with an easy conscience, quite unmindful of what the morrow might produce.

In the morning the good Doctor made his appearance early—but as my repast of the night before had been light, so had my slumbers, and I was up and quite ready to receive him. He pronounced his patient much better, and told me I had nothing to do but to get him some nice chicken-broth and a little toast at twelve o'clock. He might as well have told me to get him a carriage and four with a couple of out-riders! and I looked, as may well be supposed, a little confused; which the Doctor observing, he told me to call my servant, with a view, I suppose, of explaining to him what was required; but before I had time to answer he exclaimed, looking round the room, “Why, you've neither table, nor chair, nor bed—how is this?” The truth then was forced from me, and I told him that not only had we none of those things, but no servant nor any thing with which to procure a single meal. He appeared to be quite astonished at hearing it, and that we had been literally four and twenty hours in this forlorn condition! “Good God,” he exclaimed, “is it possible?”—and telling my friend he would send him something directly, “Come you along with me” said he, taking me by the

arm, and away we trudged to his quarter, where, after giving some directions to his servants which I could not understand, he invited me to partake of a capital breakfast in company with two or three other gentlemen, guests, apparently, but not strangers, like myself. From one of the latter, a gentleman who seemed to be perfectly at home in his position, I had to undergo a species of cross-examination, which compelled me to prate rather copiously of my 'whereabouts,' and lay open the whole extent of the misfortune, that had just occurred to my friend and myself. In the simplicity of my heart I expected condolence at least, if not offers of assistance from the individual who seemed to take such an interest in all that concerned me—but I was disappointed. As soon as my tale was over, he burst into a loud fit of laughter, exclaiming at intervals, "capital! capital! properly griffed by Jove"—an expression which I afterwards found to indicate that all new-comers were expected to endure a regular course of tricks and roguery of all descriptions as the dearly bought experience of the first year of their noviciate in India.

When breakfast was over, the good Doctor immediately rose to recommence the business of the day, which, in truth, appeared to leave him scarcely a moment to himself, but before going out he took me kindly by the hand, and told me that I and my friend would always find something to eat at his house, and that he hoped we would not fail to come at all times when not otherwise engaged. Engaged? kind generous soul! he knew that no engagement was likely to interfere with our acceptance of his invitation, but the natural delicacy of his mind suggested the expression in order to spare our feelings. I thanked him in the best language I could command—for, to say the truth, although I was then too giddy to be easily overcome by so much kindness, I found my feelings at the moment too big for utterance and then hastened home to tell my companion of our good fortune. But there a new scene of enchantment awaited me—the room I found put into very comfortable order, with a sort of cotton carpet, called a *settringee*—spread upon the floor, and furnished with two neat beds, some chairs, and a table, at which my friend was seated with a handsome tray before him, containing every thing he required, and moreover such a display of plate that I could not help telling him not to neglect to draw his sword this time if he intended it to guard the property during the night—a joke which he at first was not inclined to take very good humouredly; but returning health, and a good meal, are wonderful sweeteners of the temper, and he soon began to bear his misfortune with becoming fortitude.

When I sat down to pen these reminiscences I determined to name as few persons as possible, from an apprehension of shocking the delicacy, or in any way offending the feelings of those concerned, but in this commencement of my career, what have I to fear on those accounts? What is the early

biography of a quasi-sexagenarian but a register of deaths—a lengthened obituary! The third mortal, whose assistance in the hour of need, I have just been recording, has long since departed from this world—but who is there, who was in Calcutta between the years 1798 and 1804 who does not recollect, and who does not delight to recall to his mind the image of Michael Cheese?—"the good Samaritan," as he is appropriately styled on the monument erected to his memory in Saint John's Cathedral. He was the most unostentatiously kind man I have ever met with, and so invariably cheerful withal, that the very appearance of his smiling countenance was almost enough to chase away pain and anxiety from the sick man's couch. His practice was most extensive, and, as I have been informed, his gratuitous attendance was so widely given, that when he died, old and young, rich and poor, European and Native, joined with one accord in lamenting his loss, and there was scarcely a family in Calcutta that did not mourn for him as a friend, if not as a benefactor.

Here I am sensible I ought to close this chapter of my memoirs, but I am unwilling to do so without reminding the reader that the danger of starvation, from which I so narrowly escaped, (and one case at least of a Cadet dying from actual want occurred in Fort William, as I am told, a few years after the period alluded to)—"has now become a tale but little known." Arrangements were adopted under Lord Amherst's government, by which Cadets on their arrival are immediately placed under the care of a responsible officer, who attends to all their comforts and superintends the provision of a suitable outfit to enable them to join the corps to which they are posted. This at least is one improvement in a service which its maligners so industriously describe as growing worse and worse every day.

It is not my intention to dwell much upon the adventures of my first Calcutta residence—they included a fair proportion of riot and profusion, but nothing occurs to my memory that it would be particularly edifying to relate. I very soon gained a number of acquaintances—some useful, some quite the reverse, and some about mid-way between those extremes. Among the latter I am inclined to reckon that convenient personage known by the name of a Sircar. This man with a prudent advertence to the actual amount of my pay and prospects, abstained from advancing too much ready money, but he so contrived it that, by furnishing me with various little articles as I required them, he hampered me with a debt which I did not get rid of for several years. By his assistance, however, I was enabled to sport my hot tiffins, and to frequent the buildings and billiard tables—two places about equally advantageous to a young man in those days. In short, I lived almost at free quarters in Calcutta and its neighbourhood; for at the period of my arrival in India military arrangements of every kind were so imperfect that many months elapsed before a young officer was appointed to a corps. The

Mahratta war of 1803 had commenced, and General Lake, the commander-in-chief, was beyond the frontier. It was five months before any notice was taken of me, but at the end of that period I was appointed to do duty with a regiment at Barrackpore. There I entered a completely new world as it were—though even there pleasure seemed to be the order of the day. The duty of the battalion was managed almost entirely between the Adjutant and the Serjeant-major, to whom, sometimes, an officer of the day was added; but parades and exercise for the whole of the officers seldom occurred, excepting in the cold weather, and then only occasionally. Yet the men, it is universally acknowledged, were never in finer order—and such men too!—it was quite a sight to observe their fine statures, erect gait, broad and ample chests and well-turned arms—their lower extremities, though not deficient in muscle, were less remarkable for symmetry, in consequence of the custom, common I believe to natives of all ranks, of sitting, or I should rather say squatting, on the hams—a position which necessarily draws up the calves of the legs and presses them outward so as to give a man, who in every other respect is quite a model in shape, the appearance of being what is called bow-legged, in some cases—and knock-kneed, in others—according to the original strength or make of his frame. This, I believe, was one of the principal reasons for introducing the use of the loose trowsers now worn by the sepoys, which completely conceals the defect alluded to—besides assimilating the dress of the native to that of the European soldier, which itself was a point of some importance. In other respects I do not think that any great improvement has taken place in the dress, and quite the reverse is observable in the size and general appearance of the men themselves. Their clothing, however, is better made than formerly, and the substitution of white belts, instead of the black ones which were in use at the time I speak of, has been the means of giving them a more soldier-like bearing, notwithstanding their gradual deterioration in strength and stature. In those times it was not uncommon to see a man with a coat the sleeves of which scarcely reached below his elbows: now, the clothing is generally too large instead of too small—but is the fault in the dimensions of the coats or in those of the men who are intended to wear them? In point of costume, however, the greatest alteration has taken place in the officers. At the period referred to, it was scarcely possible to conceive a more grotesque figure than a Bengal officer. He was about half a century behind his brother of the Royal service—he wore his sash and a black shoulder belt underneath his coat, whilst the latter was cut away on each side in front as if for the sole purpose of allowing those two essential evidences of his martial profession to shew themselves. Then, in proud defiance of the ravages which a long residence in a tropical climate had committed on his nether man, he wore tight pantaloons, and spatterdashes, as gaiters were then called. As to hats, or caps, or whatever name they might go by, they were of the most uncouth description, and generally of the most unwieldy size; so that, judging from the

smallness of his limbs and the magnitude of his top gear, one could hardly divest oneself of the idea that the first violent gust of wind could completely upset him. But this was not all—the head of this soldier-like figure was powdered all over, and ornamented with a queue of twelve or fourteen inches in length, around the root of which a sort of powdery halo was allowed to display itself on the collar and back of the coat in the shape of a semi-circle, as if to give due notice that however the huge hat or cap, just described, might conceal the fact, the head of the wearer was covered with the prescribed quantity of powder and pomatum. But even at that period reform had insinuated itself between the passive obedience of the army at large, and the utter abhorrence of all attempts at innovation which distinguished its senior officers. Whilst the latter, and all the upholders of authority and the regulations, assiduously cherished their own hair and loaded it with pomatum,—in an atmosphere of 90° of Fahrenheit!—the young men insisted upon cropping themselves, and wearing false queues just tinged sufficiently with powder to enable them to conform to the letter of the law,—and it was amusing to see an old martinet walk round one of these incorrigibles on parade peering under the rim of his hat in order to see whether the powder really extended beyond the false queue upon which it was spread merely by way of decoy to the old gentleman's vigilance. No sooner, however, was the parade dismissed than the young men threw off all disguise (for that was really the name which their regimental equipments deserved)—the parade-ground became one huge dressing room—as soon as the officers fell out their servants ran forward to assist them in disrobing—away went coat, sash, sword and belt, cap and pig tail, and in an instant with a round hat and fashionable jacket the young bucks of that day looked conscious of having thrown off the slough of at least fifty years.

But it was seldom that these little trials of our patience or ingenuity occurred—generally speaking, our life was one of complete enjoyment—the commanding officer's breakfast was always a public one, provided we went in the disguise above described, but even that point was not insisted upon by all; and for any person beneath his rank to exact the observance of such formality, was quite out of the question. Dinner parties, too, were very frequent among the serious and married officers—though by the way, there were very few of the latter in those days—and those parties were never considered to be complete unless the young officers were invited. But besides all this there was a sort of open house kept by certain public-spirited individuals, chiefly staff officers and those fond of sport—a red-lion, as we used to call it, where all who wished to engage in manly amusement and exercises used to assemble and form a school of instruction, or gymnasium, for the encouragement of every bold and active pursuit that could give stimulus and variety to a soldier's life in cantonments. Riding, leaping, shooting at a mark—throwing the spear, exercising with the broad sword in the Eng-

lish or in the native fashion—racing, hog-hunting &c. all in turns occupied our attention under the guidance of the liberal individuals who, not contented with being our hosts on these occasions, constituted themselves our instructors and became our models for imitation. In the bright cluster of names which now crowd upon my memory, I have only room to insert those of Paton, Price, Toal, Mainwaring and an Artillery Officer of the name of Brooke, a man who seemed to my mind to want nothing but opportunity to realize the idea we form of such a character as Sir Philip Sidney. With a handsome countenance and commanding figure he was brave, ardent, intellectual, and benevolent above his means, possessing a mind capable of any degree of cultivation, and a disposition which, whilst it attached by its frankness, commanded respect by the invariably good intention which it displayed. The individuals I have named I used to look upon as forming the very quintessence of all that was bold, generous, and manly in the military character,—but where are they now? And if most of them are no more,—or if those who still survive have put on the garb of time and assumed a new character with their years, where, let me ask, are their successors? Alas! Echo may well answer, where?

This, however, was happiness too great to last—the sieges of Sasney and Bijaghur, and the storming of Allighur, had suggested to the Commander-in-Chief the expediency of having a supply of young officers at hand to fill up his broken ranks; I accordingly soon found myself on board a budgerow bound for Cawnpore, with a fleet of unposted Ensigns under the command of an old and steady Officer to whom the somewhat responsible duty was entrusted of keeping us out of harm's—way till we reached our destination. Another long voyage after having so recently escaped from the confinement of Indianen was rather discouraging, and I parted from my late friends with a heavy heart and with the most dismal forebodings. But in this world almost every thing happens contrary to our expectation:—if we expect pleasure we are surely disappointed; if pain, things invariably turn out better than we had ventured to hope. In both cases I suppose the mind by dwelling on its own anticipations in some measure neutralizes their effect—but I am no philosopher; all I can say is that, this was the case in the instance before us: the voyage up the river instead of being dull and monotonous, was one of the most agreeable I have ever made. At every place where we stopped for the evening, we managed to discover something new or interesting to amuse us. At Plassey, I recollect, we reconnoitred Clive's field of battle, criticised his entrenchments, took post at the Nabob's hunting seat (now by the way, completely washed into the river), and, in short, "fought his battle over again." At another place, we procured tattoos, and, dubbing every tame pig we found with the name of wild boar, got up a glorious hog-hunt. Then, of our shooting adventures there was no end,—not a day passed but some of our very young hands made some notable discovery in the way of

game, for so every strange bird was designated. I will not vouch exactly for their bringing in male vultures as wild turkies, but mistakes of nearly as ludicrous a description were not uncommon; and great was the entertainment of our servants, occasionally, when ordered to dress some of this non-descript wild fowl for our dinner. Meantime a fine easterly breeze was waiting us rapidly on our way—we soon quitted the small rivers of the Delta, and found ourselves sailing on the broad and magnificent Ganges. What a noble stream it is when it first meets the eye of a man who has seen nothing larger than the Thames or the Severn! its immense expanse giving it the appearance of an ocean—the distant trees looking more as if they grew on detached islands than on the opposite bank of the river. The stillness of the scene, too, adds to the illusion; for notwithstanding the rapid current and muddy tinge of its water, the Ganges flows on so soft and yielding a soil that it is accompanied by none of that loud hoarse murmuring which characterises a body of water running over a rocky bed or gravelly bottom. Not, however, that it is entirely destitute of noise—along its higher bank, and where the force of the stream has something to contend with, it roars and boils with a fury that threatens to tear away the land in its headlong progress. Then its islands and sand-banks occasionally produce the same effect—but, generally speaking, when near the lower bank, and the wind is lulled, the quietness of all around is very remarkable—so much so that on landing and proceeding some fifty yards from the margin of the stream, there exists nothing to remind one that so mighty a river is close at hand. I have spoken of the sand banks—these occasionally afforded us a good deal of sport, for they are the favourite haunts of alligators which lie basking upon them for hours during the heat of the day; sometimes we were enabled to approach so close in our budgerows as to get very fair shots at them, but never apparently did we succeed in wounding them. On being disturbed by the report of our pieces they gnashed their jaws at us, and, lashing their huge tails in a terrific manner, plunged into the stream with a fierceness which at first made us imagine they were going to turn the tables and attack us; however, no such event ever occurred, though, to say the truth, I should not have relished being in a very small boat in the immediate neighbourhood of such hideous monsters just at that moment. But I must continue my onward progress. Soon the luxuriant, I might say rank vegetation of Bengal was left behind us—the cocoanut gave way to the palmyra, and date trees became more frequent—though still holding out a promise of fruit which they never can fulfil; as it is only the female tree that is seen to grow to the east of the Indus—the fructifying male is nowhere to be found in those wide regions.—The face of the country, though still for the most part a dead plain—and a moist and well-watered one—exhibits fewer signs of fertility and a more scanty population—the banks of the river are comparatively neglected; and we frequently sailed a considerable distance without discerning a single habitation. The style of

building, however, in the towns and villages, becomes gradually more substantial, and the handsome domes and detached arcaded turrets, generally of an octagonal form, surmounted by a cupola, which are so pleasing a characteristic of mahometan architecture in India, almost entirely supersede the more unseemly pinnacles of the Hindoo places of worship. The appearance of the population, too, is greatly changed :—in Bengal the men are sleek, slender, and sometime of so delicate a form as almost to resemble females ; whilst at others they carry with them a something both in form and feature that irresistibly remind us of an over-grown ape. But in ascending the Ganges the human figure is observed to assume its finest proportions, and with the sole exception of the defect in the appearance of their lower extremities, before alluded to, there are, perhaps, few countries in the world which can exhibit finer specimens of men than are to be found in Upper Behar, and in the North-western provinces of the Bengal Presidency, including the Dooab and Oude, and the country extending to the base of the Nepaul hills.

But I must put an end to this loitering on my way, and at once announce our arrival at Cawnpore, where new scenes and new occupations awaited me. These, however, must be the subject of future chapters, when

“Pierce warres and faithful loves shall moralize my song.”

(*To be continued.*)

GROANS OF THE BENGAL ARMY.

GROAN 1ST.

Anxious as we may be to veil it from even our own minds, yet in the disgusting nakedness of the truth, we are the Military Helots of the British Empire—the victims of a political faction, the results of which, as affecting our body, are as unjust as absurd. The King and the great councils of England frame laws for our government with the same plenary powers as for the rest of the forces of the realm, recognizing undeniably, by this legislative act, our immediate and indissoluble connexion with the Crown and its interests—founding a right of direct and paramount interference on the principle (on what other principle can it be established?) of our being military servants of our native country, and not merely instruments of a separate and independent corporation existing within it. Yet when one of us passes a certain point laid down on the map, he ceases to be a soldier in name; his commission of geographical import hybernates, until hatched again into activity by the heat of a tropical sun this side of the Cape of Good Hope.

In no quarter of the globe, history proclaims, has the red cross flag of England waved more triumphantly than in her remote and now vast domains in the East upheld by her Indian soldiers. Still a member of this Army returns to his home worn out by climate, wounds, or the toils of war, and our “*ingrata patria*” strips him recklessly of even his military attributes, the acknowledgement of which would cost her nothing. She contumeliously debars him from that rank in domestic society, on which he might confer honor, and to which his situation as an officer should, in all liberality—nay, in common justice, entitle him. No—he is eyed by those who would by no means consider it complimentary were they termed “his brethren” in what is styled “*par excellence*” the Royal Army, with pretty much the same jealousy and contempt the matriculated members of the healing profession exhibit towards those who presume to intermeddle with her mystery unsanctioned by a regular diploma. We are deemed “military quacks,” unlicensed pretenders to the science of war, however honorable our career may have been, however brilliantly our acts in India may have ensampled the extent of our acquirements in a vocation which has employed the greater part of our lives.

From the original sin of having accepted an appointment under the Company, no services to the State can redeem to salvation, by the strength of their merit, the lost sepoy officer.—He who has directed the movements of armies to victory and new conquests for his Majesty, is encountered in the land of his birth by some callow Ensign of the 198th, the whole, perchance, of whose ideas, original or acquired, excepting, indeed his regimental stock-

in-trade, might be compassed by the periphery of one of his regulation buttons—is looked down upon by this “Royal officer,” because, forsooth! he has borne what this “Royal officer” would, in his elegant and royal phraseology, call “a cheese cutter’s commission.” Proh pudor! When every British pulse beats high to the tale of the achievements of our lion-hearted countrymen in other parts of the world on field or wave, an officer of the army, the exploits of which have so largely contributed to swell the chronicles of England’s martial glory, which has enhanced to so exalted a pitch the lustre of her arms, carrying them victoriously to that point where Alexander ceased to conquer,—cannot, under the influence of a feeling similar to that which caused Corregio to ejaculate “And I also am a painter,” exclaim aloud in the mother country, “And I also am a British warrior”—a cold and narrow and selfish bigotry would suppress the generous throb, and endeavour to sneer down what in its blindest mood it might please to designate his equivocal pretensions.

Is it supposed that professional knowledge acquired in this country is exotic, cannot thrive, and becomes utterly valueless when we carry it home?—that it is the mere production of certain soil and climate, and dies and withers when transplanted to another? Even a Royal Officer, I think, will admit this is not the case when he reflects the science gained in the East, which cradled his fame and developed his talents, taught Wellington to conquer in the West, and liberate Europe from the thralldom of Napoleon, the confidential friend of the Duke, to whose criticism his Grace voluntarily subjected his movements in the field, and from whom the mighty genius of the great Commander stooped to solicit and did receive instruction—he who, “as the bruit goes shrewdly out,” had no small share in planning that masterly system of strategy which baffled the enemy and excited the admiration, even to that point where it almost becomes awe, of the Royal Officers on the stage of European warfare—he of whom one of the most talented Ministers England ever possessed, now no more, declared that India, fertile as she was in heroes, never produced a better soldier, nor Europe a more accomplished statesman. Need I say the theme of Canning was the *clarum et venerabile nomen* of Munro—he, that Sepoy Officer, tendered to his country, in the hour of her peril and her need, his inestimable services, and they were rejected, because a Royal commission had not set its seal upon him, as if that, and that alone, could stamp military worth and give the world assurance of a soldier.* In the faint penumbral gleams of Royal favor, which have rarely, very rarely, struggled through the gloom of our unnatural proscription, let us examine calmly the benefits this Army has reaped from any occurrence of the casual phenomenon. A few K. C. B.’s were thrown to us,

* “The wisdom’s in the wig!”

which generally reach their destination, when extreme age and infirmities compel the penultimately honored individual to withdraw his attention from all wordly matters, and prepare for a speedy translation to that "bourne whence no traveller returns." It is true the advent of these insignia at such a season may, as the Evangelicals have it, "inspire good thoughts," and present to the knightly mind of the dying veteran a practical and wholesome commentary on the scriptural text of "all is vanity," thereby most edifyingly fulfilling what was doubtless the pious intentions of our supreme head of the Church. The decoration of a C. B. occasionally glitters amongst us. Here too, is the symbol of a military order without any acknowledged military character in England to sustain it, exhibiting the incongruity of the plumed casque of the warrior surmounting the sad coloured habiliments of the peaceful citizen. Truly an Indian Officer had better deposit the showy distinction with his soldier's garb this side of the Cape: on the other it only serves to bring more prominently into the glare of notice the degradation of the wearer's caste,—telling the world by the adjunction of the two letters C. B. to his name, that he is a "Company's Bengallee," or consigning him at once to the social exchequer as "contraband." I think I have fairly enumerated the modern gifts which have flowed to us from the fountain of all honors and graciousness. I will now turn the picture, but only for a moment, because that Indian Officer must be endowed with the phlegm of the tortoise who can restrain his indignation, to terms sufficiently decorous "for ears polite," when he calls to mind the cruel stigma and insult put on this Army by the blighting supercession of our Lieut.-Colonels, up to that last, flagrant, crowning act of injustice and contumely—you know our grievances. Suffice it to say then, that he of us, who would compound at such debasing cost to bask for a moment in the sunshine of majesty, must be more besotted in his devotion than the good Lady of Tillietudlem, who thought that chair consecrated for ever on which royal posteriors had been once deposited. Our acquaintance with our Sovereign has hitherto been somewhat of the same nature as that of Master Shallow with John of Gaunt. Our heads have been broken, and we have been told to stand out of the way.

The Senate of England has proclaimed, in a thousand honorable instances, that we yield to none in valour in the field, wisdom in council, fealty to our king, and devotion to our country;—why then does that country which owes to us the annexation to its crown of a large portion of Asia, ignominiously spurn us when we return to her bosom and treat us as "aliens to her blood?" *Sic vos non vobis*, &c. &c.

Our disabilities are a foul blot on the free Constitution of England in the enlightenment of the 19th century "*at spes non fracta*" in the spread of liberal ideas throughout the world, which neither priestly craft nor kingly power can much longer fetter, or confine. We may happily look forward to be emanci-

pated by the spirit of the times, *if not by the spirit of the Horse Guards!* from that Penal Code, for the imposition of which not one sound maxim of state justice or policy can be adduced.

To render the sword valued and esteemed, not as it may belong to the Royal or Company's Army but with abstract reference to the amount of service the good blade has done the country, is now at this momentous crisis, for us, the, I may almost say, sacred duty of every man in the Indian Army. Every aid which can be given to our cause is now doubly valuable. With the high spirit which I trust yet survives our unmerited disgrace, let us endeavour manfully to set ourselves right in the opinion of other nations, that our secondary and degraded position is not the consequence of intrinsic worthlessness, but we appear in it because the incubus of courtly oppression and sectarian intolerance is upon us. Why should we not proudly, but with becoming reverence, stand before the Throne, and supplicate our King that he will most graciously deign to hear, since all other ears seem obstinately shut against them, our claims to his favor and protection, based as they are on the immutable principles of justice and fair dealing? Why should we not venture humbly to call to the recollection of His Majesty, that while within his united kingdom religious creeds have ceased to be the avowed test of morality, genius, or loyalty—that while things, not names, are becoming current in the estimation of the world, and those restrictive laws which would fain distribute merit and ability by patent are fast disappearing as the sinister types of a darker age,—we are the only class of His Majesty's subjects on which a regenerated policy confers no boon.

It is correctly stated that the Half-Batta question has not recently engaged so much of our attention as formerly,—but do not believe we have ceased to remember it: the cause of its being so rarely and so lightly touched on, is, that it now forms a comparatively insignificant item in the monstrous account of our accumulated wrongs. *Cura leves loquuntur, ingentes stupent.* There is a fire burns within the human breast which neither exhausts nor discovers itself by invective, and more mischief has followed a gloomy and uncomplaining silence than the noisiest out-pourings of clamant anger.

A BENGAL HELOT.

THE BENGAL COMMISSARIAT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EAST INDIAN UNITED SERVICE JOURNAL.

SIR,—In the remarks on the constitution and efficiency of the Bengal Commissariat contained in your No. II, the general character of the department, the extent of its resources, and the economical and efficient manner in which its varied duties are conducted, are ably and accurately delineated; but the view appears that of a writer uninitiated unto the arcana, or working of the present system, and who judges evidently from perceptible results alone. Closer observation dispels the illusion, and shews that there is much objectionable matter within which requires to be brushed away, ere the department can become as useful as it is capable of being. To point out some of this objectionable matter is my present design.

Aware, however, of the delicacy of the task, it is not my intention fully to discuss the merits of the existing system, but to confine myself to two or three of the leading points, which obstruct the full developement of the resources, and cramp the energy and activity of the department.

I must premise, however, that your patience will have a trial in reading these remarks. I shall compress them into as small a space as possible, and trust to your candour to make the necessary allowance, whilst I proceed to shew the weakness within, and then to draw a few brief conclusions relative to the consequences which are liable to arise therefrom.

The first and heaviest objection to which I shall draw attention is the vesting the chief controul of a department, of which celerity and prompt decision are the life, in a Board, the judgment and actions of which, from its construction, are, and must ever remain slow. The delays attendant on references alone are pregnant with evil, and complete destruction to economical or efficient management.

Commissariat Officers, it must be premised, are obliged, collectively, to be well acquainted with the resources of each province throughout Bengal where troops are quartered. Their respective annual reports must embrace full information, upon the following points in each separate district; viz. detail of fairs, description of cattle, and principal commodities, with number, quantity, and rate of each procurable; account of seasons and their several crops, periods of sowing and reaping, statements of navigable rivers with their fords and ferries, and traffic carried on; lists of shroffs, grain merchants, and cattle dealers, number and extent of granaries; the manufactures that are established, their produce and extent; state of commerce generally, with all other details requisite for the economical, speedy, and efficient provision of an army. From the intimate intercourse of division officers, their

ready and satisfactory mode of interchanging debits and credits, the consequent facility with which produce of one part of the country can be transported to another, should economy or necessity render the transit advisable, are sources of efficiency which no other system could, in an equal degree, command.

The extensive statistical knowledge thus collected, and continually gaining addition by the frequent and able reports of his officers, is concentrated in the office of the Commissary General,—a functionary ordinarily of high rank and character, selected for the arduous and responsible situation on account of recognised talent and fitness, and should render him the most competent person to guide and controul the economy of the department. But unfortunately the existing system will not admit this, the superior direction being vested in the Military Board, to whose decision the Commissary General is obliged, on all points, to refer. Let us examine the result of such arrangement. A contract of magnitude (say grain) is required to be entered into;—the grain is ripe, plentiful, and cheap, and about to be harvested. Contractors are anxious to close engagements before the grain is distributed into other channels, and although the Commissary General or his Deputy, according to locality, could at once profitably fix the conditions, no advantage can be derived from the favorable moment, it being necessary to forward the proposals to the Military Board, with whom alone rests the final acceptance of the selected tender. An answer is perhaps received in two months; the opportunity, in the mean time, has gone by—the grain has been scattered and become dear, and the source and life of Commissariat management utterly destroyed. Contractors, too, aware of the dilatory system, and ignorant for many weeks as to which of their tenders will be selected, shape them to the detriment of the department on estimation of probable prospective rates. When the annual cost of grain expended amounts to nearly four lakhs, letting slip the favorable opportunity entails a heavy loss upon the State, as well as materially obstructs Commissariat efficiency, and where Commissariat disbursements in the aggregate amount to at least forty-two lakhs, and are almost entirely conducted by yearly contracts, to all of which, though I have named without selection, but one similar disadvantageous consequence results, and the same unsatisfactory and unprofitable delay in acceptance arises, a removal or at least an examination of the evils inherent to the system may be deemed worthy of consideration.

The second points for animadversion are, the cumbrous method of preparing honest accounts and the needless vouchers (at least three times as bulky as the voluminous accounts for which they are required to vouch) called for by the department of audit to substantiate charges.

In issues so well defined and of such constant recurrence as those of military expenditure, the fewest and simplest checks ought to be, for all reasonable purposes, sufficient, but the reverse appears the prevailing opinion, and it is the prevailing practice to support every little item of charge beyond those for the rations, to troops, and requisitions of magazines, which have established and appropriate vouchers. Division or Station orders directing the supply,—receipted indents from the corps, departments, or individual, on whose account provided,—survey reports of the condition of the supply and in case of a requisition for tonnage, (a heavy demand) in addition to the above “boat tickets,” must all be furnished before the outlay will be audited, and passed. Copies of all these numerous documents executive officers are likewise obliged to retain. A division or station order is unquestionably a proper channel of conveying to those concerned the instructions of commanding officers, to forward military duty. Survey reports are useful to satisfy parties that the article provided is serviceable and fit for the purpose required—and “boat tickets” enable managers of boats and Commissariat Officers to whom consigned, to settle with facility receipts and payments. Yet where the disbursement is not of an extraordinary nature, a “receipted indent alone,” attested, as it always is, by the officer commanding and the officer who makes the demand, would answer every legitimate object to shew the Auditor the requisition and compliance: the establishing them all therefore as “absolutely necessary” accompaniments to any voluminous accounts, causes a disproportionate expence of valuable time, a waste of large quantities of stationery, is creative of exceeding trouble, involves a needless increase of office establishment, and adds very considerably to the annual amount of postage charged against the department.

To the third objection, to the existing system, the slow and unsatisfactory process of auditing accounts, as it more particularly concerns departmental officers only, I shall but briefly advert. I may remark, however, that the delay entirely neutralises or destroys the hope of the “Author of Remarks,” that after an examination by Commissioners, “the executive Commissariat Officer would find himself upon clear, safe, and almost irresponsible grounds.” No Commissioner, without a large efficient establishment, which the Commissary General could hardly be expected to attach to him on flying visits, could examine the correctness of disbursements spreading over reams of foolscap, or could interfere with the audit of accounts. Of the accounts, nothing is heard after their despatch for five or six months. Then a retrenchment of some portion, no matter how accurate the accounts *may really be*, is *invariably* received, and an explanation demanded; when this is satisfactory, in the space of three or four months longer, the previous retrenchment is admitted on re-audit, and “charges military” (so styled) to the period closed. The same process is gone through for “charges in general books,” by the Civil Accountant to the Military Department. Hence it

will be seen, the Disbursing Officer can derive no advantage from the periodical scrutiny, so far as relieving him from pecuniary responsibility. The Commissioners, too, on other points, could only offer a limited and partial report, as upon the state of his office, the apparent accuracy of his books, and the actual cash in the Treasury at the moment of examination. These would be, *pro tanto*, advantages gained, yet hardly adequate to the labor and expence of attainment, more especially as the practical efficiency of the department, and the mode in which its varied duties have been conducted, with any improvements that may suggest themselves, form the subjects of half yearly reports by General Officers commanding divisions to the Military Board,—The condition and state of the public cattle, with dead stock, are also examined and periodically reported upon.

I shall, *for the present*, as this letter is growing upon my hands, confine myself to the working of the system upon the three points already mentioned, and shall only further trespass on your patience by marking a few of the evil consequences to which it is liable to give rise.

The necessity of reference to the Military Board very much depreciates the consequence, and lowers the utility of the Commissary and Deputy Commissaries General; the power and responsibility of the first of these being now limited to the movement of his officers, (and this even is sometimes interfered with,) the nomination, or perhaps confirmation, of the native omra, and the passing some few minor items of expenditure. The latter is a sinecure office, or at best a mere channel of reference. Thus, Officers to whom the credit of the department is dear, who from rank, capability, and experience, are selected from the Army to fill the supposed high trusts, by possessing no controuling power are rendered mere cyphers in times of peace. In time of war or actual service, more than probably the onerous burden of provisioning an army; providing depôts to a considerable amount, the utility of which must depend upon the judgment with which selected, and other contingent circumstances; hiring expensive establishments, and minutely attending to all other requisite foresight and precautions, which the movement of large bodies of soldiers necessarily involves, and incurring all the responsibility attendant on such extensive measures, would fall upon the Commissary General; but can it be expected that a functionary unaccustomed to incur responsibility or rely upon his own judgment, will at once be capable of meeting the difficulties of his situation, or be able to act with that promptitude and decision so imperatively necessary for the efficient conduct and controul of his department?

The number of vouchers required to pass expenditure so cramps the actions of the Executive Commissariat, particularly during cases of emergency, that

they cannot, without incurring a heavy pecuniary responsibility, or involving their security, venture to make unusual preparation in cases of even the greatest emergency without previous reference, thus risking by the delay the efficiency of their charge. Being likewise unable, from the same cause, to assist their fellow soldiers, is the chief reason why the Commissariat Department, is not in favour with the Officers of the Army generally.

Another source of annoyance is the necessity for constantly applying for Committees of Survey to report upon the most trifling articles that become unserviceable : a few broken bottles, for instance, or a few pounds of decayed provisions, and so forth. Thus the Department is frequently censured, and matters trivial in themselves, but of moment in their aggregate, by continual repetition create dissatisfaction and, unthinkingly, raise a flame against the department, on account of that which is inherent in the system, and might very easily be entirely removed, or very considerably alleviated; but unless the remedy be extensively applied, and the whole system of accounts altered I fear no improvement can be expected, and the Commissariat must acquiesce in the course of events, and administer with their best energies the duties entrusted to them, heedless of unmerited censure.

I shall not occupy your space by enlarging upon (as it concerns only themselves) the great inconvenience accruing to Officers of the Commissariat from the delay and method of auditing accounts, and the consequent length of time which elapses ere security bonds can be recovered, even for years after all connexion with the department, and the service perhaps, has ceased.

After all the drawbacks enumerated, the efficiency of the department must still mainly rest upon the fitness and activity of individuals composing it; and I am, my dear Sir, fully aware that the mode in which nominations to and promotions in the department are made may create objections of a more serious character than those I have advanced, but being beyond controul, criticism might be as hazardous as it would be without avail.

October 18, 1833.

SOCIUS.

STAFF EMPLOYMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EAST INDIAN UNITED SERVICE JOURNAL.

SIR,—I beg to call attention, through the medium of your truly Military Journal, to General Orders by the Governor General in Council, No. 154, of 1833, bearing date 19th October last, in which the following extract of a Letter, No. 47, from the Honorable the Court of Directors in the Military Department is published; viz.:—"Par. 3. Although we attach very high importance to the rules established for restricting the withdrawal of Officers from regular duty for Staff employment, we shall not refuse our sanction to the exception recommended by the Commander-in-Chief and by the Governor General in favor of Officers selected for the personal Staff of the Governor General, the Commander-in-Chief, the Vice-President in Council, and Aides de Camp to General Officers on the Staff, but upon the condition (suggested by the Governor General) that 'no Officer shall be *informally* withdrawn from his corps to the obvious detriment of its efficiency; and that an Officer taken out of order from a Regiment shall not be eligible for transfer from a personal Staff appointment to any permanent detached employment, unless, whilst so withdrawn, the absentees from his corps shall be brought below the prescribed number.' "

By this it will appear manifest that the extreme inconvenience and absurdity of the Regulation restricting staff employ to a certain number of Officers of each grade per regiment, issued in 1827 by that *wise statesman* Lord Combermere, when Vice-President in Council, (Lord Amherst being at the time at Simla,) has been so much felt, that a remedy for it has at length been recommended by the highest authorities in this country, and, spite of the usual obstinacy of the worthies in Leadenhall-Street, sanctioned.

The only wonder is that such a very injudicious regulation should ever have been made—or that, having been made, it should not immediately have been cancelled: and the only way to account for its not having been so long ago, is, that as the Directors' patronage was in no way injured thereby, but, on the contrary, rather increased, as the said sapient regulation tended, by lessening the patronage, to lower the consequence of the chief civil and military authorities in this country, and thereby, in some measure (as has proved the case by enabling the Court more minutely to interfere), enhance their own,—they were, in the first instance, easily enough induced to confirm it, (if indeed, as many suppose, the measure did not even originate from their reiterated recommendations)—and having done so, and tasted the sweets of being thus called on for more constant and minute interference, and publicly (as in the case of a Commander-in-Chief's nephew) to grant *favors* to their principal functionaries, which formerly were never even dreamt of, as pre-

vicious to the passing of this regulation a Commander-in-Chief or Governor General could always serve his relations or others, whom he wished, himself, they very naturally did not, and do not, feel much inclined to give up the hold thereby so heedlessly given under the local authorities.

The truth is that Lord Combermere in issuing, and Lord Amherst in confirming, this regulation, acted without sufficient forethought; and consequently, if I may use such a term, perpetrated a most singularly injudicious regulation for an army constituted as this is, and at the same time outwitted themselves by throwing away (which doubtless neither ever intended) their own and their successors' power and high consequence, by surrendering their patronage, and thus rendering them dependant on, and therefore much more subservient than even their predecessors had need to be to, the Leadenhall authorities.

Who ever before heard of such a thing as a Commander-in-Chief, or, still more, a Government being *unable* to reward a meritorious or deserving servant? Yet this has been the natural consequence of this singularly ill-judged and monstrously absurd regulation!

Nothing could have been devised better adapted to stifle all zeal, emulation, and all other goodly feelings towards the public service, and to bring the chief authorities in this country into entire subserviency to their twenty-four masters, and disrepute amongst those over whom they are appointed to rule.

A similar regulation was proposed to Lord Hastings when in this country but he was far too keen-sighted and profound a statesman to fall into such a snare. His reply was prompt. "What! and so tie the hands of myself and successors up in such a manner that they will be mere cyphers, entirely dependant on the Court of Directors?"

This Government always seems to consider it as *infra dig*: to cancel a regulation once issued, even though the inconvenience or mischievous consequences of it may be ever so apparent. Were it not for this mighty childish and ridiculous short of feeling, this restrictive order, instead of being thus altered and amended, would doubtless at once, as would be the wisest, if not also the most dignified course, be altogether rescinded.

As it now stands, an Officer may be taken from his regiment—no matter the number present—for personal staff employ, and may thus be absent, if on the staff of a Governor General, for eight or nine years,—or of a General Officer, for five! The clause about none being *informally* withdrawn from a corps to its obvious detriment, is mere verbiage, and will never affect any

Officer of *strong interest* ! though, possibly, an occasional parade of it may be made with some *really deserving* man with little or no other interest than what his services give him ; and the other one about Officers thus withdrawn not being eligible for permanent staff employment, unless, whilst so withdrawn, (which, in such a period of time, must almost always happen,) the absentees from his corps shall be brought below the prescribed number, is a mere blind—a something to save dignity ; for if an Officer be absent from four to nine years, *selected, as 'tis called, for personal staff employ*,—what is it, in fact, but *permanent staff employ* ?

The regulation is, doubtless, intended to be gradually dropped, and under a new Governor General and Commander-in-Chief nothing more will be heard about it : if not, this amendment—this botching, only makes it even more unjust than before : *a mere matter of convenience, in fact, for such great folks as the Governor General, Commander-in-Chief, Vice-President in Council, and General Officers* ! ! ! As it is well known that neither services, nor professional abilities, are required for *personal staff*, i. e. aides de camp, who are, generally, young officers, the old would consequently, if this were the case, be as bad, or rather worse off than before, as they would thus see their juniors removed to these appointments, which would, *as a matter of course, ensure their being permanently provided for on vacancies* taking place, in preference to themselves.

A great fault in most of the regulations of this Government seems to be the shutting out old Officers from appointments to make room for young. This may particularly be observed in the Medical Department. Supposing, therefore, that it is now meant that this regulation should, as is high time, die a natural death, the only effect it will have had will have been the ruin of a good many unfortunates during the period of the present Governor General's administration, which will ensure *it* and *his* name being blended in a manner never to be forgotten !

That so cruel, in very many respects, and ill-judged a regulation should be abolished, nobody will regret. The Local Authorities should, as they always in reality must, be allowed to be the proper judges of what corps can spare officers, and what officers are fittest for particular appointments, and all other such like points—for which, it is obvious, no standing rules can ever properly be laid down.

A Government should always carefully abstain from clogging itself or its servants with too many or *too minute* regulations. A sufficient scope should invariably be left for the exercise of discretion according to the change of circumstances.

Your's truly,

November 1833.

A.

REPLY TO AN ARTICLE IN No. 11., ON THE SUBJECT OF THE PRESENT STATE & PROSPECTS OF THE BENGAL ARMY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BENGAL HURKARU AND CHRONICLE.

SIR,—The recital of the grievances of others, seldom fails to remind us of our own, and almost as naturally are we led to institute a comparison between the two: where no very glaring disparity exists, it may be added, that the conclusion generally arrived at, by each individual is, that his own case is infinitely harder than his neighbours.

This feeling (of rather frequent recurrence in India) was last roused in me by the perusal of a paper in the 2nd No. of the East India United Service Journal, headed “The present state and future prospects of the Bengal Army.” I think that upon consideration it will appear that many of the hardships complained of by the author, although as he says somewhat deplorable, are by no means confined to the Bengal army.

Captains of thirty years standing in the service, Lieutenants and Brevet Captains of twenty two years and Ensigns of eight years, are not unique in their positions: a reference to the Army List of His Majesty’s forces, (and we have seen and heard of old subs on the continent) will satisfy any one of this; nor do I wish to include those who have been any considerable period on half pay. The grand cause of this unpleasant state of affairs is to be found, says the author, in the reductions which have taken place.

Are not all services liable to this? has not the King’s service experienced the bitterness of it? and in an eminent degree? and, further, is there not at this moment, reduction going forward, and an incessant cry on the part of the radicals against the alleged overgrown Naval and Military Establishments?

The writer’s next cause of complaint is, that every proposal for the benefit of the Company’s army is strenuously opposed at the Horse Guards.

The fact is he will not see any distinction between opposing the wishes of the Company’s troops, and upholding the just interests of the King’s army. It is fortunate for the latter that the Horse Guards sometimes advocate their rights, for God knows, they have nothing to hope from the tender mercies of the Honourable Court of Directors. The author then declares that the two armies are “distinct and differently constituted” and immediately afterwards is at pains to shew the intimate connexion between them. He next proposes to increase the number of officers of rank, and allusion is made to the numerical list lately published, of General and field Officers in his Majesty’s army. Now it is well known that this same list, which it must be acknowledged has swelled to a size rather disproportionate, is one of the

great enormities daily thrown in the teeth of the ministry, and it is this objectionable feature of the service which is held up for imitation! however, the circumstance such as it exists, appeared to answer the temporary purpose of the author, who by some unfortunate fatuity had forgotten what he shortly before recommended, that both armies "should stand on their own constitutions, and neither interfere with the other," to which, 'no other meaning can now be attached than this, let the Company's army keep all they have got, (no trifle either) and seize upon as much more as they possibly can.

It is further urged that "length and continuity of servitude" ought to entitle officers to high rank. This doctrine is monstrous, and never acknowledged by any government, as applied by the author; for, he is speaking of high rank as conferring the *claim to command*, which he states to be monopolized by the King's army, owing to the paucity of officers in the Company's service or sufficient rank. If talent is not to weigh against length of service; a state will always be ill served. It would be short sighted policy, or rather inconceivable madness to prefer a grey headed dotard, to an active and intelligent officer, because forsooth he is ten or twenty years' senior. Has a principle so absurd ever been acted upon, without a change having been eventually forced upon the originators of such folly?

It is complained of as a grievance, that the Commander-in-Chief is a King's officer, and that his tour of duty is too short. May I be permitted to ask, what is there, as alledged, so peculiar in the nature and constitution of the Native army, with which it is *necessary* or even *desirable* that a Commander-in-Chief should make himself acquainted, and which at the same time requires years for its attainment? The appointment has been almost invariably filled by an experienced and distinguished officer; in many instances one, who has been in the habit of commanding foreigners: a member of a service, perhaps the first in the world, and boasting of a system of discipline nearly approaching to perfection. If such a man is not fitted to command, or exercise a superintendence over the Native army, I can only say, there is every reason that he ought to be, and the cause of disqualification must be looked for in the army, and not in him. The Native troops can have no better model than the King's, and if the resemblance were as close as is desirable, the Commander-in-Chief would not be saddled with objections, more justly attributable to the other party concerned.

The next subject treated upon is, "Staff Appointments" of which, the author declares, that in his opinion, the King's officers have already *more than their just share*. This is turning the tables with a vengeance. Their exclusion from these lucrative situations has often been a source of complaint.

But let us see how the author proposes to make out his case; he produces a list, at the head of which stands the Commander-in-Chief; then follow the personal Staff of the Governor General, Commander-in-Chief, and General officers on the Staff; the commands of Fort William and Agra, the

Military Secretary to the Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant and Deputy Adjutant General, Quarter Master General, Major of Brigade and Inspector of Hospitals. This is the author's catalogue, and although he may consider it to contain the elements for forming a tolerably large portrait gallery of Staff worthies, yet I can produce another list, so much more copious that it would be tedious to particularize, and I will therefore content myself with grouping them in one large picture, at the same time, avoiding as much as possible, the confusion attendant upon all crowded assemblages. But before proceeding to exhibit my own picture, I will, with a good nature, which I trust will be appreciated, endeavour to place my rival's in a more suitable light.

Those officers in the King's army, who feel and complain of the hardship of exclusion from the Staff in India, are those, and only those, whose luckless fate has condemned them to serve in India.

From amongst *them* how many are chosen to fill the appointments before quoted?

The Commander-in-Chief is nominated at *home*: in most cases he brings with him from thence his Military Secretary, and frequently Aides-de Camp. The same may be said of the personal Staff of the Governor General towards which the Company's army contributes its quota (at present rather a large one.) The Adjutant General and Quarter Master General, are both appointed at the Horse Guards, and do not interfere with the Company's army, which has similar appointments filled by its own officers. If there is a Brigade Major in Fort William for King's troops, is there not likewise a Town Major for the other army?

As for the Inspectorship of Hospitals,—the Medical officers of His Majesty's Regiments serving in India, might as reasonably aspire to it, as to the Popedom of Rome. So that it appears that the body, I have defined, may look to the enjoyment of the following Staff appointments; an occasional Aid-de-camp-ship to the Governor General, Commander-in-Chief, or General officer on the Staff; the command of Fort William and Agra, (the latter but recently) and the Brigade Majorship of King's troops.

At a set off against this is, the Company's army furnishes a large proportion of officers for the command of divisions, districts and garrisons; has its own Adjutant and Quarter Master General's departments, the former comprising 12, the latter 10 functionaries; Brigade Majors 12, Fort Adjutant 4; a Commissariat department (agreeably well paid) giving employment to 28 fortunate individuals; a Surveyor General with 10 subordinates from the line.

Judge Advocate General's department which provides for 8 more: the Pay and Audit officers, 12 and 4 respectively.

Then there are executive officers 10 from the line. Stud Department 11, Pioneers 10—together with snug commands of Local horse, provincial Battalions, Body Guard, &c. for about 40 more, and lastly the Political appointments held by Military men. This is the division of the spoil, upon which we are told, King's officers have every reason to congratulate themselves; it may be so, but to some it would appear that the proportion closely resembles that of Sir John Falstaff's bread and sack.

The author next says "Captains of from 25 to 30 years service are not in the places befitting their age with their Regiments as mere Commanders of Companies." All services will shew instances of Captains whose service has been as long, if not longer, and although the case may be hard to the individual, it can scarcely be objected that their age, unless attended with infirmity, is incompatible with the rank they hold.

The paper concludes with a comment upon a recent regulation relative to Staff employment, requiring that the officers "*last* appointed, i. e. shortest time absent" shall be the one to rejoin his corps, when reduced below its compliment. This is represented as unjust but the matter may be viewed in two lights.

If the object in placing an officer upon the Staff, is merely to fill his pockets, it is certainly *unjust* to disturb him immediately, and would be more proper to turn out one already gorged: but if the interest of the government and the good of the Service is to be kept in view, "common sense" would dictate that the most skilful and experienced officer in the department should be retained. However I might have spared myself the trouble of suggesting this, as the author says, "the case is too obvious, and the arguments too many and plain to require being brought forward, as they must strike every man of common sense or observation." If this dogmatical declaration should not happen to be satisfactory to every one, it was evidently intended to be so, and my amiability will not permit me to question the excellence of a mode of reasoning, to which it may be convenient for the author to resort upon future occasions.

BARBAROSSA.

NOTE.—We have transferred the above, leaving out an ill-natured postscript which has nothing to do with the argument, because we are anxious for the fullest discussion of all matters of an interesting military character, and especially of those which have their origin in this JOURNAL. In a general way, however, we must confess ourselves inimical to the custom of borrowing from other periodicals; not from any foolish feelings of jealousy, but because the interest of the subject has been affected, or superseded, by previous publicity. Why could not BARBAROSSA write to us? Does he think we would have refused to insert his reply? Perhaps, in his avowed hostility to this JOURNAL (as evidenced in his postscript) he did not wish to give these pages the benefit of his lucubrations;—but did it never occur to him that his own letter in the *Hurkaru* was *carvare* to those readers of that paper who do not get our Journal, and that therefore the Editor, to make it intelligible, must have transferred the article in the E. I. U. S. J. to which BARBAROSSA replies?—ED. E. I. U. S. J.

THE EDITOR'S TABLETS.

SIR JOHN MALCOLM.—Since we last met our readers, intelligence has been received of the death of this gallant officer and distinguished diplomatist. It was our purpose to have furnished in the present number a sketch of his career in this country, more especially with reference to his “feats of broil and battle,” but we found that it was not possible to do full justice to the subject without an encroachment upon our space, or the exclusion of some of the excellent papers with which we have this month been honored. The omission is perhaps the less to be regretted since other publications have in the interim noticed Sir John Malcolm’s career at considerable length, thus furnishing us with additional material for a correct and complete sketch in our next, and satisfying the immediate craving of the public appetite. Sir John died of paralysis. His last words, as we learn from a private correspondent in London, betrayed his excessive anxiety regarding the India Bill; and it is said that even after the power of speech had failed him, he signified, by peculiar motions and gestures, the intense interest which he felt in the success of the Charter.—The admirers of Sir John met, after his death, at Lord Clive’s house, and resolved to erect a monument to his memory. Several persons subscribed £100 each, and amongst them we perceive the name of Sir John’s old friend, the Duke of Wellington.

COMMAND OF THE ARMY.—There have been some rumours of a letter from Lord Hill having been received by Sir Edward Barnes, authorizing him to resume the command of the Army; and it is added, that, in virtue of the communication, Sir Edward made an effort to obtain it. We have taken some pains to get at the real truth of the matter, and have the best authority for saying that no such letter was ever written. In fact, it is difficult to understand how such a rumour gained any credence at all. It could hardly be supposed that Lord Hill would so far depart from his duty as to write such a letter, or that Sir Edward Barnes would be so weak as to act upon it; while we are quite certain, from the known character of the present generalissimo, that no letter of the description alluded to, even if duly received, would have the least influence over his Lordship’s determination, if it inclined to a retention of the command.

Mr. Grant’s India Bill has passed the Commons without any contest worth recording, and has left the question of the command of the Army still in abeyance. Previous to the Bill’s release from the Committee a communication regarding its provisions was sent to the India House, when mention was made of an intention to leave to the Court of Directors and the Board of Control the decision of the propriety of entrusting the command of all the Indian forces to ONE Commander-in-Chief, or otherwise. It is probable, we think, that it will be determined in the affirmative, for the balance of evidence before the Select Committee seriously inclined, as most of our readers have probably seen in *The Englishman*, to the abolition of

the three separate commands. However it may be decided, one thing at least seems certain—and that is, that the future Commander or Commanders in Chief will exercise a power purely military, the seats in Council being filled by Civilians. The Army will have little to regret in this. The constant absence of Commanders in Chief from the seat of Government has established that they are not essential to the working of the administrative machinery, while *we* can bear testimony to the fact of their influence in Council, *when present*, being of no moment as regards the interests of the Army. It seems to us that a Commander-in-Chief in India, to be efficient, should be *migratory*; for, *fix* his head-quarters where he will, he must always be some hundred miles away from certain portions of his jurisdiction. Moreover, his ubiquity is a guarantee for the observance of watchfulness in every quarter. It would render the office more fatiguing certainly, and divest it of many of the charms resulting from the consolidation of friendships and the homage of society; but on the other hand, the efficiency of the Army would be increased, and a considerable expence saved in respect to the present emoluments of the other commands.

PATRONAGE OF THE ARMY.—The Right Honorable the President of the Board of Control, Mr. Charles Grant, has lost an excellent opportunity of performing an act of justice towards the Officers of the Indian Army, by declining to support a considerate and liberal motion of Mr. Wynn's on the third reading of the India Bill. It appears that Mr. Wynn urged the appropriation of one-fourth of the military patronage to meritorious Officers in this Army for the benefit of their children, and there was some hope, when the Bill was in Committee, that the motion would be carried. Leadenhall selfishness, however, prevailed, and the Army gained—*nothing*. We scarcely know how to characterise such savage indifference to the claims of the Military. In His Majesty's service the principle of old Officers having a claim upon the nation for a provision for their sons is fully acknowledged, and there are few regiments in the Army that do not exhibit the names of the sons, or other near relations of the older Officers among their junior branches. With Indian Officers, however, debarred as they are by being all their lives on *foreign service*, from looking out for eligible situations for their children in England, there is not only no such deserved favor apparent, but they have the additional mortification of being taunted with their want of interest, and of being accused, in short, of presumption if they venture to ask for an appointment for a son, merely because they have themselves spent the greatest part of their lives in India, and perhaps shed their blood for the Company. Instances could be mentioned of Officers—of distinguished Officers too—having been treated with discourtesy, and even actual rudeness by *Honorable Directors*, for making applications of this sort without being able to support them by family influence!

DECCAN PRIZE MONEY.—Something has been doing in this matter since the issue of our last number. The "matter," indeed, is not much, but it

proves that the question is not completely lost sight of, although it is almost as far from adjustment as when the conflicting claims of the respective Commanders were first agitated. The amount of the recent stir has been comprised in a decision of the Privy Council, which decision decides nothing but the propriety of a reference to the Lords of the Treasury. The argument employed on the occasion, on either side, occupies a space that renders it quite impracticable for us to transfer it entire to these pages at the late date at which we write, and we therefore avail ourselves of the summary of the *Hurkaru*, as embracing every point, involved in the question, of the slightest possible interest.

“ The argument before the Privy Council on the long vexed question of distributing the Deccan Booty, which was heard on the 9th July, occupies much more space, as it must have done far more of the public time, than its intrinsic merits warrant. We have gone over the entire report in all its tedious length of column and weary smallness of type: but although we doubt whether, even in India, many readers will take sufficient interest in the wiredrawn and often repeated arguments of the numerous counsel, to go through the whole proceedings, we still think it as well, as matter of record, to publish the entire discussion, giving the essence of this wearisome proceeding editorially. Our doubts as to the whole proceeding being generally read are the stronger, inasmuch as the result of all this ‘arguifying the topic’ for the twentieth time, has been to leave the matter precisely where it stood; and the parties appealing from the Treasury to the Privy Council have been sent back again by their Lordships of the latter to their Lordships of the former Board—to the place from whence they came. In our number of the 16th November we published this, the only real important, fact—that the appeal had failed. Our quotation was from the *Times* of July 22, as follows:—

“ The decision of the Privy Council on the appeal in the case of the Deccan prize money was laid before the King on Thursday. His Majesty was pleased to direct that the memorials of Sir Thomas Hislop, Sir Lionel Smith, and Lieut.-Col. Prother, on behalf of the forces under their command, be, as prayed in the memorial of Lieut.-Colonel Doyle, referred to the Commissioners of the Treasury, to do therein as to their Lordships should seem fit.”

The essence and pith of the long story detailed in the *Times*’ report of the 17th July is nearly as follows.

The King, with whom all matters of prize and booty rest, save where Parliament has stepped in to legislate specially, referred the question of the Deccan Prize-money originally, (in 1823) to the Lords of the Treasury, requiring them to report on the claims and pretensions of all claimants on that fund, which was then in the hands of the Company.

The Marquis of Hastings claimed to have been the real Generalissimo of all the armies from the different Presidencies, who took the field against the Pindarees from 1817 to 1819—and in such capacity of Commander-in-Chief

of all the King's and Company's forces in India, to have directed the combined military operations of the whole, in like manner as he superintended the political incidents of the war as Governor General.

Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Hislop was Commander-in-Chief of the Company's Forces at Madras—and, as such, nominated by Lord Hastings to command in chief "the Army of the Deccan." This force was destined to co-operate from the South of the Nerbudda with his Lordship's Grand Army from the North on that river, and with the Bombay corps ascending from the West, as well as a Bengal division to move down from the East, so as to enclose the enemy on all sides. The Marquis himself took the field with the centre division of the Bengal Troops, and it is sufficiently plain that such a military operation, on the greatest scale, employing concentrically above 1,20,000 men could only have been planned and executed under one Chief, to whom all commanders of portions were of necessity subordinate. The character of the war was indeed, in a certain degree, changed by the outbreak of the combined Mahratta powers; and instead of the concentration intended upon the North, or *Hindostan* side of the Nerbudda, the operations were largely carried on the Deccan side, also of that river. The unity of movement, of reporting, and of command, was not however disturbed, though more discretion was of course left to subordinate commanders; and those who had occasion to observe the transactions of the Grand Army Headquarters are all agreed that the general military direction assumed by Lord Hastings was substantive and complete. Sir Thomas Hislop, nevertheless, claimed to be considered as an independent Commander-in-Chief, and to share as such, in all prize taken by his divisions; while Lord Hastings was desirous that each of the numerous divisions engaged in the general *battle* should keep and divide what it took, excluding all participation on behalf of the generals and Staff. Of the latter, many naturally remonstrated, and declined giving up their portions; and in the end the Marquis was obliged to give up his unfeasible plans, and to claim the prize rights of Commander-in-Chief, which his forbearance would not have had the desired effect of leaving to be enjoyed by the collective army, while there were those who had private pecuniary claims on his Lordship, which he could not sacrifice or disregard.

These circumstances led to the memorable controversy as to the Commander-in-Chief's share of the Deccan booty before the Lords of the Treasury, in 1823.

The original decision was unfavourable to Lord Hastings. Sir Thomas Hislop being at home and actively at work, had many advantages in bringing his case to a favourable decision; while Lord Hastings was still abroad and habitually inactive in pecuniary matters. His Lordship had somewhat damaged *his* case, by the habit of writing autographical letters without always accurately distinguishing whether their purport was of a military or politico-Military nature, and without indicating by any designation, in which of his

capacities he signed. His talented Political Secretary too, although cautioned against these future possible inconveniences, was not unapt to affect the issuing and recording of *quasi*-military orders and instructions in Civil Departments. The decision was, that Sir Thomas Hislop should get the Commander-in-Chief's share of all that any of *his* divisions had captured; while of any residue, (supposed to be little or nothing), Lord Hastings was to have the Commander-in-Chief's share, Sir Thomas Hislop to take as a Lieutenant General and the whole combined corps to partake.

In the end of 1825, the Trustees, His Grace of Wellington, and Mr. Arbuthnot, becoming better acquainted with the case, saw that the original Treasury minute was founded on ignorance of facts and principles, and was, indeed, inapplicable; the best part of the booty having been taken not by any Deccan division, but by civil and political authorities, and as the result of the *general* operations, although within the geographical circle occupied by the Deccan Army. It became necessary to refer the matter again to the Treasury, which, in 1826, *virtually* reversed matters, and adjudged about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the whole booty to Lord Hastings and the *combined* army.

From that time to the present, as may be seen by the counsels' speeches, repeated and again repeated endeavours have been made to obtain a re-revision in one shape or other, in whole or in part, by Sir Thomas Hislop, and more recently by an abler man, Sir Lionel Smith. The latter would doubtless have obtained for his own Division the separate 7 or 8 lacks of the Peishwah's property, lately in litigation in the Bombay Supreme Court, if he had been able to prove that the money was in Poonah when taken by the fourth division under his command.

Parliament was put itself in motion by Mr. Warburton and other stirring friends of Generals Hislop and Smith. The easy Lord Althorp was prevailed on, even at the moment of issuing out the last moiety, (of about £450,000) to sanction an address to the Crown for granting the parties a further hearing in appeal before the Privy Council. That body has no regular jurisdiction in so peculiar a case; nevertheless it consented to hear argument; and the matter terminated, as was to be expected, in sending every thing back to the Treasury, which has already pronounced its opinion on the merits.

The only thing of novelty brought forward on this occasion by the appellants was an attempt to damage the respondent's case on the merits, because of a clerk's error in having *omitted to leave out* the words "of the Deccan" after "army," in the copy of a letter of the Trustees, which they had substituted for a withdrawn letter of like date, into which the important words in question had found their way, owing to declared misinformation and error in the first instance on the part of the Trustees. The attempt failed of course, having no leg to stand on."

CHRONOLOGY OF ANGLO-INDIAN MILITARY AND NAVAL EVENTS.

(Continued from page 167 of No. 11.)

- 1783.—January 5—Onore taken by the English.
- Ditto—January 20—Pondicherry, Carical, Mahé, the Comptoir at Surat, and all the other French possessions in India restored to the Crown of France.
- Ditto—The Coventry frigate, and Blandford, East Indiaman, taken by the French Admiral Suffren, off Ganjam.
- Ditto—April 26—Died, Lieut. General Sir Eyre Coote, K. B. This fortunate officer never lost a battle where he himself commanded. His remains were sent to England, and the E. I. Company erected trophies to his memory in Westminster Abbey and Leadenhall-street.
- Ditto—Ditto 30—Died of the wounds he received in action off Gheriah, Colonel Mackenzie Humberstone. He was on board the Ranger, a small cruizer of 12 guns, when she was attacked by five Mahratta vessels of different dimensions.
- Ditto—May 27—General Matthews died in prison.
- Ditto—June 13—The victory of Cuddalore—General Stuart with 11,000 British defeats the French and Mysoreans under De Bussy.
- Ditto—July.—General Goddard dies.
- Ditto—December.—Cannanore taken by Brigadier General Macleod from Tippoo's ally, Ali Rajah Bibby.
- 1784—March 11th.—The Treaty of Corial-Bunder, (Mangalore) by which Peace was concluded with Tippoo Sultaun.
- 1785—Jan. 22d.—Colonel Pearse and his detachment received the thanks of the Bengal Government for their Services in the Carnatic and the West of India. Each Sepoy Corps received a pair of honorary standards, each Soubahdar a gold medal, each Jemadar a Silver one, with suitable devices and inscriptions. The Gholundauze Company received similar marks of honour. The European Soldiers received two rupees additional pay, and the natives one, monthly, during life.
- Ditto—July 25.—Lieut. Gen. R. Sloper, assumes Command of the Bengal Army, from Lieut. Gen. Stibbert.
- Ditto—The Bombay Government sent 200 Europeans and 500 Sepoys, to take possession of a small island called Die Garcia, about 200 leagues to the N. E. of the Isle of Bourbon, on which island the late Marquis de Bussy had permitted a French family and some negroes to reside merely to ascertain to whom it belonged. The English alleged they wanted it as a watering place, but the French Ministry protested against it, supposing the English might make it a lodgement for troops, to attack the Isle of France and Bourbon.

- 1787—April 1st—The Bengal Artillery formed into a Brigade.
- 1788—The Male Asylum established at Madras.
- 1789—Died, Colonel Thomas Deane Pearse, Commandant of the Bengal Artillery. A column was erected at Dum-Dum to perpetuate his memory.
- 1789—War declared with Tippoo Sultaun, on account of his hostile proceedings towards the Rajah of Travancore.
- 1790—May 24th—General Meadow, the Governor of Madras, takes the field against Tippoo Sultaun.
- Ditto—June 15th—Carroor taken.
- Ditto—July 3d—Arrivacourchy taken.
- Ditto—July 10th—Daraporam taken.
- Ditto—Aug. 22.—Dindagal taken.
- Ditto—Sept. 13.—Tippoo defeats Colonel Floyd's detachment near Sattimungulam.
- Ditto—Sept. 22.—Palicandcherry taken.
- Ditto—Nov. 19—The battle of Tapoor Pass.
- 1791—Cornwallis takes the chief command of the army against Mysore.
- Ditto—March 7th—Attack on the Pettah of Bangalore, in which Colonel Moorhouse is killed.
- Ditto—March 21st—Bangalore taken by storm.
- Ditto—May 15th—Cornwallis defeats Tippoo near Seringapatam.
- Ditto—June 18th—Wooliadroog taken.
- Ditto—July 16th—Ossore taken.
- Ditto—July 22d—Ryacottah taken.
- Ditto—Sept. 17th—Raymond Ghur taken.
- Ditto—Sept. 18th—Nundidroog taken.
- Ditto—Dec. 11th—Severndroog taken.
- Ditto—Dec. 24th—Outradroog taken.
- 1792—Feb. 6th—The battle of Seringapatam.
- Ditto—Feb. 27th—Peace proclaimed between the English and Tippoo.
- 1793—Pondicherry, Chandernagore, and Karrical, and all the other French possessions, captured by the English. This was the third time Pondicherry fell.
- 1794—Admiral Sir Edward Hughes dies.
- Ditto—Oct. 26th.—Sir Robert Abercromby with 7,000 English defeats 20,000 Rohillahs, under their famous chief Gholam Mahomed.
- Ditto—Dec. 7th—The treaty of Pattah Ghaut—Peace between the English and Rohillahs.
- Ditto—Dec. 22—Nuwaub Assof-ul-Dowla presents the British army with eleven lacks of rupees for its discomfiture of the Rohillahs.
- 1795—Colonel Champion, the conqueror of the Rohillahs dies.
- Ditto—July—Chinsurah taken from the Dutch.
- Ditto—August—Trincomalee, Malacca, and Fort Oostenburg, likewise taken from the Dutch.

1795—October—Manaar and Jaffnapatam, Ceylon, Cochin, and every other Dutch possession fall to the British Arms.

1796—The *Triton*, East Indiaman, captured by the French off Ganjam. •

Ditto—The greater part of the Dutch Spice islands were this year taken by the English Admiral Rainier.

Ditto—June—The Bengal Army organized anew.

Ditto—August—The Dutch Squadron captured in Saldanha Bay, by Sir E. Keith Elphinstone.

1798—Oct. 31st—The Calcutta Militia re-established and embodied.

1799—Feb. 22—The English declare again War against Tippoo Sultaun.

Ditto—Feb. 28—The French frigate *La Forte*, captured by the English Frigate *La Sybelle*.

Ditto—May 4th.—Seringapatam taken by Storm by the English under General Baird.

Ditto—Ternate and its dependencies falls to the English after an obstinate resistance by the Dutch of 52 days.



Selections.

STATE OF THE MADRAS CAVALRY.

Adverting to the *system of reform* that is advocated by all well-disposed and reasonable good people of the present times, let us exhibit the state of the Madras Native Cavalry, (which has so lately drawn forth many remarks relative to its efficiency for active service) in its now lamentably crippled condition. Very considerable reductions have been made in the numerical strength of these corps from principles of economy, in times of peace; but it is evident that all armies in the East should be fully prepared to act at all times with full and sure effect, whatever their numerical strength may be, and that no military arm is so essentially requisite to be retained in its full vigour, than that, which, from its habits, can be made to act with the least delay upon the most distant points, with a rapidity of movement that must secure success. Numbers have at no time been of so much importance in war as *discipline*, and *discipline* never has been secured without *morality*; but the *moral* principle is dependant mostly upon *example*, and *example* to be effective must proceed from the *superior* to the inferior grades of all numerous bodies. It never has been known that where good morals prevailed, there has been any want of discipline in the military body, but it is certainly too common, that far more notice is thrown away generally upon matters of much inferior value; such as the turn of a cap, or a coat, the fringe of an epaulette, the position of a button, or the *exuberance* of a pair of whiskers. We have heard it pronounced by men in power, "*that there is no better recommendation to their patronage than a notice from the immediate controlling authority, that the applicant is zealously obedient to his official duties.*" This sounds very grand, but the character of the individual whose recommendation may be produced, is, we believe, the only matter that materially deserves observation, for we believe *no man of respectable habits* would grant any recommendation to a *disreputable person*. It has been remarked by an officer lately deputed to report upon the Madras Native Cavalry, and who has proceeded to Bengal, that the contingent horse attached to the Nizam's troops at Hyderabad appeared more efficient than the regular corps of the Madras Government:—"They were better mounted, as well equipped, more contented and rode with spirit and firmness." There can be no question that, upon the score of horses, *Government alone is responsible*: there is no doubt that good and efficient cattle for Cavalry corps are to be had, and it must lay alone with the Government to provide them;—it would be also undoubtedly better for the service if all equipments were provided by Government instead of in part by contract with officers, as at present: for although this might prove more expensive, it would assuredly render the responsibility to rest where it should,—that is *with the Government*, and not any single individual. It also would make the situation of a Commandant of a Cavalry regiment more reputable by preventing his interest and his duty from coming into competition with each other. That an officer should, along with his military duties, exhibit the greedy characteristics of a contractor, we believe, is what is known in no other army but the British, and could not be to-

literated by any but a Mercantile Government. The earlier, therefore, it is abolished the better. We have had military contractors for *tents, for medicines, and for many other &c.'s*; but we understand that wherever Government has transferred these to its own control, there has been universally a saving of expenditure. It may easily be demonstrated by any intelligent calculator, that saddle and troop contracts also might be abolished, and a saving accrue to the public, as well as a yet greater efficiency result to the service. No body of men can be contented so long as they find that, in matters of duty, appearances are more to be taken into account than realities.—A fellow with a smart tassell, a neatly braided jacket, a well polished boot, or a conceited *tout ensemble*, is denominated a good man, let his moral habits be of the grossest description; but experienced officers know that it is not at *tinsel shops* they will find men for service. The courtly followers of Charles the Martyr, or first of England, were no match for the plain habited, soberly, moral soldiers recruited from the farmers' household by Noll, usually known as Oliver Cromwell's own men. But though these matters are so currently believed, it is to be lamented they are not more constantly acted up to. Upon the score of drill more importance is given than it by any means deserves: the *real essentials* of movement are forgotten in the *ridiculous gallopade-like style of voluminous detail* by which the memory is stretched beyond any reasonable expansion. Military movements are endeavoured to be twisted into as many varieties as a Chinese puzzle, that none but an *Indian juggler* would think it worth while to unravel, and from which no benefit could be had excepting the *broad grins of ignorance* or wild approbation of *goggle-eyed stupidity*. It has been understood that a determinate rule had been established by the authorities in Europe to limit the number of officers to be absent at any time from any regiment, and that this rule had been also sanctioned by Lord W. Bentinck and orders transmitted to each minor presidency to keep it in perfect action at all times, according to the letter; but it is observable that a much more extensive number of officers are absent from the Cavalry corps generally than the rule admits, or than ever could have been contemplated either by the authorities in Europe or the Governor General. No doubt this will attract his Lordship's notice when he visits Madras, and he will be able to apply an immediate check to the *non-observance of the established rules* in spite of party intrigue or under hand influence. We believe five officers are allowed to be absent from each corps,—some say for staff duties, but it certainly was intended that not more than five should be absent at one time for any purpose whatever; for as two more are allotted for staff regimental, there must be then seven officers from each corps not available for regimental detail, which (excluding one field officer to command the regiment) would leave fourteen officers available for regimental detail, which with six troops might be sufficient, but scarcely so with eight; but it will be found that in many cases nine and ten officers are absent from each regiment, and this with the two for regimental staff will make twelve officers not available for regimental detail, leaving seven only as available for that purpose. Besides this, we believe it is specified that not more than *two Captains and three Subalterns* are to be absent at one time. This would leave *three Captains and nine Subalterns* for regimental detail, excluding the regimental staff, which might be sufficient; but if we examine, there will be found frequently only *one Captain and five or six Subalterns* available for regimental detail amongst a body of four hundred men or more, with their horses, followers, &c. at least four hundred more, or from eight to nine officers to retain in proper discipline eight hundred persons. Will any one deny that this is insufficient and tantamount to ensure an impossibility of retaining any body of men so numerous in a proper moral superin-

tendance and military subserviency—more especially with a description of troops that are only effective when prepared with a sufficient number of officers to be detached in any direction at any time? Let us examine the state of each Regiment of Native Cavalry at this time, and let us ask ourselves whether it is practicable to expect any one of these corps can be in an efficient state when more than one half of their established complement of officers are absent and unavailable for regimental duty. Let us begin with the list of officers absent.

	Colonels.	Major's.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Cornets.	Total.	REMARKS.	Available for detail.
1st Regiment,.....	1	0	4	2	2	9	Out of 20 and 2 Staff.	9
2d Ditto,	0	0	2	4	2	8	Out of 19 and 2 Staff.	9
3d Ditto,	1	0	4	3	1	9	Out of 17 and 2 Staff.	6
4th Ditto,	0	1	3	4	0	8	Out of 15 and 2 Staff.	5
5th Ditto,	0	0	4	1	1	6	Out of 19 and 2 Staff.	11
6th Ditto,	1	0	3	5	0	9	Out of 16 and 2 Staff.	5
7th Ditto,	1	1	4	5	0	11	Out of 19 and 2 Staff.	6
8th Ditto,	0	1	4	5	2	12	Out of 19 and 2 Staff.	5
	4	3	28	29	8	72	Out of 144 & 16 Staff.	56

[Vide Army List, June 1833.]

So here are fifty-eight officers only available for regimental duties, for at least four thousand men, or about fourteen to every one thousand rank and file for detail. Several corps have only five officers present, exclusive of regimental staff for detail duties, out of five corps each has only one Captain present for duty. Let us reason with ourselves and ask whether any military body so situated can be efficient? One regiment has no Field Officer with it, and only one Captain. Is this all in accordance with the *established principle* that not more than *five Officers* should be absent at one time from any corps? Is it agreeable to the regulated rule which determines that two Captains and not more should be absent at any time? Is it consistent with *common sense* that any military body so disarranged can be retained in a good state of moral discipline? and does it not point out with *exact distinctness* the real cause of the Madras Native Cavalry being considered non-effective for service even on a frontier station?—Let the blame then rest upon the proper head, and not be laid to the account of those officers who are available for regimental detail, without any effective support;—let us not be surprised that a laxity of all proper feeling should be prevalent at any particular time amongst a body so situated, that discontent should appear, or that horses, men, and officers should go to confusion.

Amongst the objections made against the efficiency of the Madras Native Cavalry as stated by the inspector who has gone to Bengal, is that of the ill manner in which both men and officers ride. Lately great irregularity upon this point has been shown, and may be attributed to the absurd arrangement formed for a riding establishment separated from each regiment; as if any system of riding drill could be made more effective by being taken out of the control of each Regimental Commanding Officer. It may be just as well attempted to bring the height of all the human race to one fixed standard as

to produce an exact similarity of seat on horseback in every regiment in the service; and even could this exact similarity be attained, it is not worth any thing equal to the *extra charge* that must be thrown away to secure, vainly, so nice and variable a fashion *by the formation of a separate and distinct establishment* placed out of all regimental control. Riding schools had been established nearly four years past separate from each regiment, and let us mark the result in the reports of the Inspector of Cavalry, which we believe have been made known to the Bengal Government, and in consequence of which the separate riding school there has been abolished. If there are to be riding schools, place them where every young Officer should be *present with his regiment*, and not out of the control of its commanding officer;—let a proper number of Officers be retained at all times present with each regiment—and when any are forced away from it by ill health, let their place be immediately supplied by the Officers on the Staff;—let regiments be kept effective in this way, and we shall soon find the Madras Native Cavalry attain to the same celebrated efficiency it had in *the times gone by*.

Arcot, September 10, 1833.

DRAGOON.

FIELD BATTERIES.

In my letter or article upon Field Batteries, published in your Gazette of the 7th ultimo, nearly a whole line was omitted at the conclusion of the last paragraph, but one, through the carelessness of your Devils I presume.—As printed by you it runs thus—"one gun to every 500 men is the mark:" it ought to have been—"one gun to every 500 men is the mark in time of peace."

In that article I showed that the French army, on its present peace establishment, has one gun to every 505 men, which is as near the mark as possible—without reckoning the material of the National Guard, which consists of 625 pieces of cannon.

I also showed that in the Army under the Bengal Presidency we have but one gun to every 640 men—and I shall now proceed to point out the number of field guns which it might be prudent to have *always* in readiness for actual service.

The Horse and Foot Artillery have, at present, each 12 Light Field Batteries, of *six* guns each—giving a total of only 144 guns for the whole Army!—Now, I should advise that, that fine and efficient branch, the Horse Artillery, be immediately increased four field batteries—and a similar number of batteries added to the Foot—this would give 192 guns to the Army, or one gun to every 500 men—which is, as already stated, the true proportion in time of peace. But as our Indian Army must always be considered upon a war establishment, more particularly the Artillery and Cavalry branches of it; and as in time of war it is deemed absolutely necessary to have at least, one *spare* gun to every 1,000 men, Government would do well to give, in addition to the immediate increase recommended above, 96 *spare* Guns; but whether by equipping 16 new batteries of six guns each—or by adding 3 guns to each of the 32 batteries already mentioned, might not much matter perhaps in point of *efficiency*—although, I think, the addition of the 3 Guns, making each battery to consist of *nine* pieces instead of *six*, would undoubtedly be the *cheaper* mode of the two to the State.

As I have said before, our Artillery are never on a peace establishment—at least should never be—in this country—even when Infantry are upon a peace establishment. Infantry can be raised and drilled even in time of

war, and new levies very soon become fit, at any rate, for cantonment duties—and Officers are not immediately wanted for them—at least beyond a Commanding Officer and his staff. Not so with Artillery: with this arm scientific and intelligent Officers are essentially necessary—and no men could be raised or drilled or horses broken in for it, and be ready for service, before most probably the war for which they had been hurriedly wanted was over!—and whilst raising and drilling, be it recollected, Artillery men are of no manner of use to the State.

We all know that our Government in India is founded on opium—but our tenure is probably even more frail and precarious than we are willing to believe. Let but one serious reverse to our arms occur, and we shall need no “Russian invasion” to hurl us from our high and palmy state! We can all recollect Bhurtpoor—had a reverse been experienced *there*, what, may I ask any thinking being, would have been the result?—and what, may I again ask, would be the result of a reverse in these days, with our reduced Army, and our Foot Artillery batteries rendered worse than useless by their present wretched bullock draught?

It behoves a wise and prudent Government to be *prepared*, and not to suffer a pitiful and pernicious economy to weigh for an instant against the placing of our main—the Artillery—upon a liberal and efficient footing.—(OBSERVATEUR: *Correspondent of the Delhi Gazette.*)

A SUBALTERN'S MEANS.

Having favored us with many able and valuable articles on the fiscal and judicial policy of this great Empire, I hope you will not consider it derogatory to your editorial dignity to take a peep into the ways and means of such a humble individual as myself, who can claim no higher rank or title than that which belongs to a poor Subaltern in the service of honest John. After this information it would be supererogatory to trouble you with a detailed statement of my annual revenue; suffice it to say, that the financial department is at present far from being in such a flourishing state as could be desired. You will be less inclined to doubt the veracity of this acknowledgement, when I further inform you that the whole of my private property consists of one loving spouse and nine little cherubs. But I must here drop the family curtain, my present object being merely a treatise on taxation, and to point out to you the various channels through which my treasure oozes in the chape of subscriptions and donations. I shall first commence with the Military and Orphan Funds, then proceed to enumerate the regimental and cantonment burthens. Few large stations are without a Thespian band; we are therefore expected to contribute towards the support of the theatre either by subscription or donation,—frequently both. Then comes the Racket Court and Book Club; and when I urge my having no ear for music when dunned by the Band fund, I am cajoled with a deal of bombast about “he who hath no music in his soul, &c.” Although at present my stud consists of one poney, in age a few years senior to myself, yet if I refuse to add my mite to the fox hounds and Race course, I am twitted with having less spirit than a certain insect I need not name.

Most people will admit that the above mentioned imposts are by no means a slight drain upon a scanty treasury, yet I would not be understood to look upon them as unjust or unreasonable;—it is optional with ourselves to contribute or otherwise; and if they do not all yield solid benefits, they at least afford us pleasure and rational amusement.

But it is now my painful duty to bring to public view an imposition as grievous as it is disgraceful, and one which is daily practised on the honest

and industrious for the sole use and benefit of rogues and knaves, or, to use their own phraseology, gentlemen who live upon tick ;—or, in other words, those worthies who purchase every thing without having either the means or inclination to pay for any thing. This practice seems to be daily gaining ground, and I believe there are few Stations but what are saddled with a few of this honorable fraternity. Indeed it is a notorious fact, that an enormous extra price is put on every article of consumption in order to indemnify the vender against the losses sustained by those insinuating blood-suckers, many of whom, in order to conceal their own innate meanness, affect to assume an air of superiority over their betters, yet blush not to live on the fat of the land at the expence of the widow and orphan. But the time has now come, when it would be equally pusillanimous and culpable to submit longer to such an impudent and shameful imposition.

Let us rise with one accord and wipe off that foul stain and degrading slur thus cast upon European honesty and British integrity, by using our best endeavours to unkenne! the Hyænas wherever we may find them, and for which purpose I call upon you, Mr. Editor, to lend your powerful aid in so just a cause. You have the means of exposing offenders, and to expose is to redress ; and in the meantime I would strongly recommend to every tradesman who wishes to deal fairly with his customers, to adopt this for his motto and to hang it up over his door in legible characters—Pay to-day and I'll trust to-morrow.—(*Correspondent of the Delhi Gazette.*)

Our correspondent may find a remedy for his principal grievance if he can prevail on the honest and industrious at his station to deal with no tradesman who gives more than a month's credit. All bills should be discharged on the first issue of pay.—*Ed. Delhi Gazette.*

THE UNION JACK.

In the early periods of English history when an army took the field, every banneret who had furnished the quota of men for which he had engaged, was entitled to bear a banner of his arms, under which his retinue served. The King bore three banners—namely, the Royal banner, which contained the arms of the Sovereign, and the banners of the arms of St. Edmund, St. Edward, and St. George ; but as this article relates only to the latter, it is unnecessary to take any further notice of either of the others.

As the tutelar saint of England, St. George's banner always ranked first in importance ; and long after the banners of St. Edmund and St. Edward fell into desuetude, it continued to be the national banner of this country. In heraldic language, it was "Argent, a Cross Gules"—i. e. a white flag with a plain red cross, such as is now the distinguishing flag of an admiral of the white squadron, and where alone, excepting at a coronation or other great ceremonial, it floats in its pristine purity. It may here be observed that the cross of St. George forms part of the ensigns of the Order of the Garter, of which that saint is the patron ; and that in the fourteenth and subsequent centuries, even if the custom did not prevail at a much earlier period, every English soldier was distinguished by wearing that simple and elegant badge over his armour.

About three years after King James the First ascended the throne, the banner of St. Andrew of Scotland, "Azure, a Saltire, Argent," was then united to that of St. George, by virtue of a Royal ordinance.

There is every reason to believe that the flag arranged by the heralds on this occasion was the same as, on the Union with Scotland, became the national banner, because it occurs on one of the great seals of Charles the Second, and is represented on the bowsprit and mizen-mast of the "Sove-

reign of the Seas," (which ship was built in 1637,) in pictures of that vessel by Vandewelde and Heywood. The flag in question may be thus blazoned—"The cross of St. Andrew surmounted by that of St. George, the latter fimbriated Argent."

By a Royal proclamation, dated 28th July, 1707, pursuant to the authority which was vested in the Crown by the Act of Union, this combination was ordered to the ensigns armorial of the United Kingdom of Great Britain. Instead of adhering in this arrangement to the usual rules for marshalling arms, by which the cross of St. George would have been quartered with that of St. Andrew, and which would have been far preferable, either with respect to popular feelings or to the laws of arms, it was deemed proper to engraft the one upon the other; but apparently from an adherence to heraldic rules, which was little to be expected upon an occasion when its first principles were violated, a fimbriation, or slight edging, was introduced with the view of preventing the blue in St. Andrew's banner from touching the red of the cross in that of St. George, but which did not produce the desired effect.

It is evident that the banner of St. Andrew not only became engrafted upon the banner of St. George, but actually usurped the greater part of it; and that ensign which had so often triumphed over its new partner, lost its own individuality by its concession to its former rival. If one spark of English pride had animated the breasts of those who had the management of the affair, such an arrangement would never have occurred; for it would have been a sufficient indication of the union of the two kingdoms, if the banner of St. Andrew had been quartered with that of St. George.

The union flag continued in this state until the 1st of January, 1801, when, upon the union with Ireland, the last, and, from the manner in which it was arranged, most injudicious alteration was made. Instructions were issued to those whose duties related to such matters, to prepare a design for a combination of the cross of St. Patrick, "Argent, a saltire Gules," with those of St. George and St. Andrew, as they were then used. An obedience to these directions necessarily produced the present disjointed, and (as the object was to unite the three crosses so that each might be clearly distinguished) most absurd arrangement; for the cross of St. Andrew, instead of being charged with that of St. Patrick, is quartered with it; and consequently, in lieu of a perfect saltire being presented upon it, four bendlets appear, but which, if considered as "bendlets," all the terms of heraldry cannot describe. Thus not only is the saltire of St. Patrick broken by the fimbriations of the cross of St. George, but no two parts of it are opposite to each other.

The banner is thus blazoned in the royal proclamation of the 1st of January, 1801: "Azure, the crosses saltire of St. Andrew and St. Patrick quarterly, per saltire counter changed, argent and gules; the latter fimbriated, and the second surmounted by the cross of St. George of the third, fimbriated as the saltire." This extraordinary amalgamation arose from the wish of combining the three crosses into one, without the least regard to the manner in which the rules of heraldry, or considerations of propriety in the appearance of the flag, would be neglected. The objection to the present blazon is, that even to the most skilful herald it is not only very obscure, but some doubt exists whether it properly describes the charges. Setting aside the positive jumble of terms, which is unavoidable from its present complicated arrangement, it is by no means certain that a "fimbriation" does not extend all around the field, in which case the cross of St. George would be still further "shorn of its beams," for it would be entirely surrounded by a narrow white border. But even admitting that a fimbriation should not

extend all around the cross, there can be no question that a charge, if a colour, merely fimbriated by a metal, does not justify such charge being placed on another colour; and hence the present blazon of the union flag is false heraldry. Although the fimbriation of the cross of St. George in 1707 is conjectured to have arisen from the wish to prevent the colours and metals being improperly mingled, the fimbriation was wholly unnecessary. The cross of St. Andrew being a metal on the blue, admitted that of St. George being placed over it, but as the cross of St. Patrick is a colour, it would be improper to place that of St. George upon it, without an intervening metal. Notwithstanding that the fimbriation alluded to is here deemed to have arisen from a mistaken idea of its necessity, it is impossible that its introduction was caused by a wish to represent the banner of St. George, "Argent, a cross gules," rather than the cross alone, in which case it should have been blazoned "a cross argent charged with that of St. George."

Having shown that the union banner, as it now appears, is alike defective in the principle upon which it was altered in 1801, and the blazon of it if not erroneous, is at least objectionable; and assuming that the national flag ought to be so simple in its combination that each cross should be as distinct and clear as possible, and its heraldic description fully intelligible and of undoubted correctness, a plan will be submitted by which these desirable objects can be fully attained. The only sacrifice in the principle that produced the present banner which is required, is, that the absurd idea of uniting the three crosses into one should be abandoned, and which is not now attained; for, however much it may be argued, that the cross of St. Andrew and St. Patrick are joined by being quartered, the effect is that the latter has in fact totally ceased to exist, whilst the cross of St. Andrew is blazoned alone "surmounted by the cross of St. George." The following blazon will present a union of the three crosses in their original forms, and at the same time that it is contended that the flag is decidedly improved, that the leading principle is adhered to and the object attained, the heraldic description is both clear and intelligible. "Azure, the cross of St. Andrew, thereon the cross of St. Patrick surmounted by a cross argent, charged with the cross of St. George."*

The etymology of the term "Union Jack" has never, it is presumed, been explained, for it does not occur in any lexicon or glossary. The word "union" obviously arose from the event to which the flag owes its origin and the only difficulty is, therefore, as to the expression "jack." As the alteration in the banner of St. George occurred in the reign of James the First, it may, with great probability, be supposed to have been a corruption of "Jacques." If, however, this hypothesis be rejected, the following is submitted. It has been already stated, that the English soldiers were accustomed to wear the cross of St. George on their upper garment; and as it appears from early writers, that the upper dress of a horseman, and according to others, a coat of mail, was called a "jack," it admits of the inference that a small flag merely containing the cross in question was termed a "jack" when used at sea, after the word banner, which, more properly speaking, is confined to the field, fell into comparative disuse. The former of these conjectures appears, however, the more probable.

The above interesting history of the Union Jack is from the pen of Sir Harris Nicholas, K. H. and is copied from a little brochure printed, if we mistake not, for private circulation.—*United Service Journal*.

* Another blazon is "Azure on a saltire argent a saltire Gules surmounted by a cross of the second, charged with another of the third;" or in plain language, on the blue ground, a white saltire, containing a red saltire, and over all, on a white cross, a red cross.

THE MADRAS TROOPS.

One of the most splendid and honorable proofs that might be advanced against the aspersions levelled at the Madras Troops, is their conduct in the attack on five stockades at *Kocane*, under the command of Colonel Smith, C. B. The whole force employed on this occasion, we believe, consisted of about eight hundred men from the Light Brigade, 3d Regiment P. L. I., and 34th Regiment C. L. I., and a company or two of other regiments, which, if we mistake not, were the 28th and 39th N. I. The first company of the 3d, about seventy strong, had the honor to take the lead, and while before the stockade, exposed to a brisk fire from small guns and musquetry, and supported by only a few men from the other companies of the same corps, the remainder of the force being cut off by the flood tide having carried away the temporary bridge, never could soldiers have behaved better than did this gallant little body. The men were firm, steady, and resolute. No difficulties would embarrass, no dangers intimidate, no perils awe this hardy of brave men, determined to snatch the laurels of the day for themselves.

The affair of *Keikloo*, we are aware, will be brought upon the canvass in opposition to the achievements of the Madras sepoys at *Kocane*. We would, however, have it remembered that the military in all ages and in all countries experienced failures. No force, no regiment, no body of armed men, has at all times met with uninterrupted success. The Roman legions have been vanquished, the Eagle of France has flown from the battle field, and the Lion of England has retired from the scene of carnage. At *Keikloo* the enemy were in great numbers, and possessed many advantages, not only from their ground, but from the strength of the stockade they defended. They had likewise a flank battery which annoyed the advance, and killed and wounded several of the men, as well as officers. The attack failing, the order was given to retire, and the retreat was covered in an able and resolute manner. In considering this unfortunate affair, we must not forget the time and circumstances under which the attack was made. The force marched in the afternoon, and the officer commanding had received information from spies that the stockade was not more than three miles from his then situation. As the troops advanced, however, the distance was found to be eight instead of three miles. The men were consequently fatigued—and, considering the disadvantages under which they laboured, the result cannot, we contend, with fairness be imputed to them as an indelible stigma.

The next instance we shall adduce is the taking of *Kemindine* on the 11th June, 1824, by Sir A. Campbell in person. This glorious affair reflects the highest honor on the troops engaged, and proves beyond question that the Madras sepoys are willing, and as able as they are ready, to do their duty. This place, it is true, had been attempted on the 3d of the same month. Advancing on this place, the troops fell in with a stockade, afterwards called Colonel Smith's stockade. The advance party, it will be remembered, consisted of but one company of the Madras Europeans, and one of the 3d Regt. P. N. I. Both companies entered at one and the same time, and drove the enemy before them with considerable loss. We shall not enter into the cause of the retreat of the troops from *Kemindine*: much might be said on the part of the native troops, but we conceive it unnecessary to descend into matters, which, from all accounts, it is better for certain parties should be suffered to remain forgotten. W.

cannot, however, overlook the praiseworthy conduct of the 3d, under the brave, indefatigable, and gallant officer, then Ensign, and now Captain Moore of the same corps. The enemy came down in great strength with the intention of retaking Meitken, and thereby cutting off all communication with the force then in advance at Shua-gheen—but were repulsed by Ensign Moore with the few men under him, in a manner equally honorable to that officer and his gallant comrades.

From this affair we may turn to the attack on Dallah under the command of Lieutenant Glover. The native troops on this occasion appeared to vie with their leader in his enthusiasm for the honor of his profession, and behaved with a steadiness and resolution which cannot be forgotten by those who saw them on the field.

The conduct of the troops in the defence of Kemindine in December 1824, is too well known to require comment, and it may be said that they, on that occasion in particular, proved themselves worthy to be arrayed under the banners of England. Considering the difference in point of physical strength, between Europeans and Natives, and making allowances for the peculiar notions, prejudices, and ideas of the latter, the behaviour of the Madras sepoys in Burmah is very far from being unworthy of eulogium. They were then exposed to many disadvantages which European troops in other parts were not called upon to encounter in actual warfare. Great numbers of them fell victims to an unhealthy climate, and equally as many to the arduous and harassing duties they had to perform. The aspersions, therefore, which have lately been breathed against their fame cannot be considered in any other light than foul and unworthy libels on their hard-won reputation and merit the contempt rather than the indignation of all who take the trouble of thinking for themselves.—*Madras Gazette*, Sept. 18.

THE HONORABLE COMPANY AND THE MEDICAL SERVICE.

The merchants being princes, and taken under the protection of an all-powerful Minister, after Mr. Pitt's famous act of 1784, seem first to have thought of an Aristocracy of their own in India, which, like the weight at the opposite end of a balance, should elevate themselves at home.

It accordingly became an object to load the Indian scale with the greatest possible quantity of wealth and dignity, in order to make the English one rise higher. Before those days Civil Servants received very small salaries, but were tacitly permitted to exact quite enough from the Natives under their authority,—a practice which, though sanctioned by their Mussulman predecessors, would have borne an ugly appellation in the West. Lord Cornwallis judiciously removed this reproach from the order, giving them large avowed incomes and prohibiting unauthorized gains. The scions of nobility, the well educated, and the talented youth of Britain, now found a provision equal to their expectations in the Hon'ble Company's Civil Service.

The Directors naturally sent out their own sons and relatives to share the high places of the East. The rest of the civil appointments, or writer-ships, were bestowed on the nominees of the gentlemen, impolitely called *Boroughmongers*, who alone,—dealings in money being illegal,—could give full value for these exports in domestic currency. Hence the number of

titles, seats in Parliament, promotions in the Army, Navy, and every public department, which have resulted from the influence of the Rulers of India.

The effect of this traffic, quite creditable in British politics, necessarily gave a disproportionate amount of the revenue to the Civil Service, which, according to Mr. Crawford's calculation, received collectively £ 2,000 sterling yearly for each of its members. The really useful offices, however, were perhaps never over-paid at any time. But extravagant and wasteful allowances were often conferred on influential sin-cristis, and on the pampered establishments which weak men in power cherish as part and parcel of their own pretensions.

Whatever this dominant class gained in excess of its fair claims for the duties actually performed, was virtually taken from other branches of the service.

The Army, presenting shades of difference in its departments, consisted, before the peace in Europe, almost entirely of the sons of the middling orders of gentlemen. It contained neither the extremes of Princes and Lords, nor of naughty women's footmen. The few of them who could reach the great Parliamentary lever were gradually screened from the crowd and fittingly endowed with better pay.

Hence, as great inequalities arose in military as in civil allowances: but the disproportion between those of the two bodies was uniformly well marked. Wherever power came to be displayed, civil authority predominated. The Writer on landing took precedence of the Lieutenant of perhaps 15 years service; the Factor of seven was superior to the Captain of 20 years; and the Senior Merchant of 10 years service had place above Lieutenant-Colonels, the youngest of whom might generally be at least twice his age.

The individuals composing the medical establishment are distributed amongst the foregoing public officers, without internal patronage, or the least degree of direct or indirect power to decide on professional merits, or to assist one another.

Physicians and Surgeons, considered collectively, have always been more highly remunerated than the members of any other profession in England. Without obtaining an expensive education, and foregoing the most coveted objects of ambition, they are not fit to render the services which the wants of their fellow creatures require of them. The unrestricted competition of society, affected by no arbitrary or interested regulations, still affords both payment for services and compensation for what is relinquished sufficient to retain a fair proportion of talent and moral worth for the private practice of medicine at home. Yet it cannot be denied that a calling, demanding the renunciation of politics, has sunk in estimation with the progressive rise of political corruption.

The Radcliffs and Meads of former times held far higher places in society than the most eminent practitioners now living. The Spectator, correct as to the feelings of his day, represents Will Wimble, the younger son of a country Baronet, as being an idler because he had not capacity for the study of Physic or other learned Professions, and his family was too proud to make him a merchant. None of the Wimbles of South Britain for a century past have preferred the Doctors gown to the counting-house, for obvious reasons. But the old predilection still continues north of the Tweed, where the cadets of the hereditary gentry, like the Pitcairns and Princes, amuse

predecessor take to Medicine as a becoming vocation. Two gentlemen for instance, formerly in our Medical Board, were of nearly the highest blood of their country. The southern oligarch might, with his new prepossessions, have marvelled lately at the name of the Honourable Francis Sempill, boasting three or four centuries of nobility, in the list of Bengal Assistant Surgeons.

Thus in Scotland, where nearly one half of the medical men who come to India receive their education, the profession is respected: in England, where the majority are born, this respect is partly commuted into liberal payment; and all taking for granted that the munificent Company is far more generous, eagerly contend for appointments to India. The illusion continues, until 14,000 miles of salt water between them and home, making retreat impossible, has placed them helpless at the mercy of the traffickers in preferment. An educated gentleman, who by the same interest which got him an Assistant Surgeoncy, might have been a Cadet five or six years before, without the toil of professional study, finds himself, in so far as permissive regulations avail, made the private servant of the Company's Aristocrats and their Body-Guards. Government gives medical men virtually no rights, and subjects them to the domination of others without protection.

I must here be understood to complain of the liability imposed on us by the system, and not to assert that either civil or military authorities are uniformly or systematically oppressive. Even a slave of extraordinary talents, extraordinary temper, and extraordinary address, has commanded the forbearance and respect of those who claimed a right to fetter and scourge him. He who is possessed of all the social privileges of a gentleman, therefore, cannot fail, if he greatly excel his neighbours in any estimable quality, to make friends, who, in that capacity, will take his part against enemies. But we shall presently find that, with respect to medical men in India without personal allies, not only the professor but the profession, and whatever it can do for society, are at the mercy of all the weakness, malice, and low-mindedness which can exist in a commissioned officer.—*MEDICUS: Correspondent of the Delhi Gazette.*

DREAMS.

Notes for the new Commander in Chief of all the Forces in India and the Governor of Madras.

1. Unite the General Staff of the Army. This will save upwards of $\frac{1}{3}$ of the number of Officers.

2. Abolish one of the Regimental Staff of all Regiments, give the Adjutant 200 rupees, with a Sub-Conductor to do the duties of Quarter Master; an Indo-Briton to perform the Pay duties, who must first be initiated in the Auditor General's Office, otherwise he will be perfectly useless; and a Regimental Clerk to prepare the Regimental Records; an Interpreter on the same pay, &c. as in His Majesty's Regiment.

3. Unite the subsidiary Forces of Nagpore, Jaulnah, and Hyderabad. This will save Assistant Adjutants General, Assistant Quarter Masters General, Deputy Judge Advocates General, Commissaries of Ordnance, Commissariats, Brigadier's Establishment, and form one of the noblest Camps of Instruction in the British Army.

4. Abolish all Contracts.
5. Prepare a useful and practicable code for pay, and one-half at least of the Pay Department will be dispensed with.
6. Finally, prepare for the Army of India a Code of Regulations.—A DREAMER : *Correspondent of the Male Asylum Herald.*

ARTILLERY PROMOTION.

I have just read in your Gazette of the 14th ultimo the Plan of a Retiring Fund, which, if established, would give two steps annually to Artillery Officers—and to which I readily agree, upon the principle that “half a loaf is better than no bread.” But in a Corps consisting of 30 Field Officers, 50 Captains, and 120 Subalterns, what after all, Mr. Editor, would two steps a year be to a gray-haired Sub, like myself, standing by no means too *high up* in our sad, long, dreary roll of Lieutenants?

The Retiring Fund may do some little good perhaps—but it is to the Government and to our Honourable Masters that we must now look for effectual aid. Our promotion is most wretchedly slow—and when I see, on all sides, Officers brooding over their disappointed hopes, and observe, that old Captains, who are Cadets of the year 1804, stand so low down on the list, that they cannot, in the common course of events, obtain the rank of Major for these next ten years, I confess I utterly despair, and feel that all “*esprit*” is fast oozing from me.

The usage of the Royal Service formerly obtained in the Hon'ble Company's Artillery, and regulated the number of our European Officers. Why has it been abandoned, let me ask, and our Battalions officered after the fashion of Sepoy Corps of the Line?—The thing is absurd and truly *digne de moquerie*! At present we have not half enough of European Officers. Let but another *Bhurtpore* occur, and we shall again behold Artillery Officers drawn from every corner and district of the country ere a sufficient number can be mustered for the mere duties of the siege batteries, without allowing any for relief! At the late siege both our Officers and men were sadly harrassed—and many of the European Officers were *twenty-one days and nights* in battery without relief!

Second Captains should be granted to Troops and Companies, with a proportionate number of Field Officers—and our Majors promoted to Second Lieutenant-Colonels according to the principle which obtains in the Royal Artillery at home.

The Artillery expect—justly expect—much from our new and respected Commander-in-Chief, Lord William Bentinck; and I, for one, feel persuaded that his Lordship possesses the *disposition* as well as the *power* to serve us.—A GREY-HAIRED LIEUTENANT : *Correspondent of the Delhi Gazette.*

Central India, 2nd Oct. 1853.

Military Intelligence.

MOFUSSIL.

CAPTAIN HERBERT. — It is with deep regret we have this week to announce the death of Captain Herbert, formerly in charge of a Trigonometrical survey of Kumaon, and late Astronomer to his Majesty the King of Oude. In his decease India has sustained a severe, and for the time, we fear, an irreparable loss.

We are not aware of the early career of Captain H. or the date of his first appointment, to the Survey Department, but he soon became conspicuous for his scientific attainments, his active research, and minute accuracy in all the details of the profession. Subsequently being appointed to survey Landour, the extreme accuracy with which he executed the task, gained a high character for him with Government. The apparatus used in measuring the base, in the Dera Doon, was made entirely by native workmen under his superintendence, and displayed equal ingenuity and knowledge of this difficult subject; it was considered as a decided improvement on any thing before employed by surveyors in India, with the exception only of the apparatus used on the Grand Trigonometrical Survey, which is, of course, of a very different and superior character.

The principle, though novel and scientific, was abundantly simple: brass rods were procured of a proper thinness to be easily affected throughout by minute changes of temperature; and the coefficient of expansion being ascertained for each degree of the thermometer, this correction was regularly applied to the measured distance. The rods were sustained by trussed frames, supported on trestles, carrying elevating screws for bringing the rods to a level state, which was effected by a very fine line passing over light pulleys and kept tight by plummets. The mechanical details of the contrivance were considered very superior.

Although Captain H. was indefatigable in his exertions on the survey, he omitted no opportunity of adding to his general knowledge, and during this survey he made considerable progress in Geology. His attainments, indeed, were deemed so satisfactory, and his character for correctness and research stood so high, that Lord Hastings (the patron of science and Maecenas of India) appointed him to conduct a Geological survey of the Himalaya range, a vast unexplored field, and an

undertaking of considerable difficulty. The papers connected with this subject, and published in the Asiatic Researches, are highly valuable. Geologists have been long waiting with anxiety for his final and complete report, which however, has not yet appeared. It is, however, to be hoped his papers are preserved to the public, and that we will shortly be in possession of this great blank in the Geology of the world. The specimens collected are, we understand, in the possession of the talented Secretary of the Asiatic Society, from whose well known zeal in the cause of knowledge we may hope soon to cull the fruits of Captain H.'s labors. Captain H. was successful in the department of Oryctology, and collected many organic remains illustrative of the periods of the different formations. This science has created a new era in Geology, and Capt. H. was well aware of its value.

Notwithstanding that in this country scientific food has ever been at a discount, and in spite of predictions of failure, urged on all hands by his friends, Captain H.'s ardour in the cause of knowledge induced him to plan and become the Editor of the *Gleanings in Science*. The success which has attended his labors is the best proof of the work. In the East its circulation extended rapidly, while contemporary Journals at home have noticed it in terms of unqualified praise. The *Journal of the Asiatic Society*, edited by the present Secretary of the Asiatic Society, is a continuation of the *Gleanings*, and under the fostering protection of Government, and the encouragement of the Indian public, has assumed a bolder strain and higher character. To Captain Herbert, however, is due the praise of having laid the foundation of a work, which, while it has disseminated throughout India a taste for science, has also instilled a vigor like its own into the Asiatic Society at a time when that institution appeared to have passed its full meridian, and to have begun to hasten to its setting, under the effects of old age.

Captain Herbert's general scientific attainments and experience in Astronomical observations, pointed him out as a man eminently qualified for the situation of Astronomer to the King of Oude, to which His Majesty appointed him about two years ago. The appointment gave universal satisfaction; and the new Astronomer to the East India Company

having then arrived at Madras, the co-operation of Captain H. was expected to be most valuable to the cause of Astronomy. We believe, however, that the late *Old* Astronomer's talents have been much confined by want of proper instruments and other circumstances. We have been informed that a complete set of new and efficient instruments has been lately commissioned from England, but the levelling hand of death has deprived us of him whose knowledge, ability, and faithful recordance of facts, would, with such means, have doubtless extended our sphere of knowledge.—*Mofussil Ukhbar*, October.

MEDICAL RETURN FUND—We regret to observe a schism amongst the committee of Management of the Medical Return Fund.—We allude to the circumstance for the purpose of stating, that though we are acquainted with few non-subscribers in the middle ranks of the service, yet those we do know, and who have communicated to us their reasons, are unanimous in declining to subscribe on account of the conduct of the Calcutta committee, who they say have unsettled the whole resolutions agreed to by the service by constituting themselves a legislative body in addition to their executive duties. The hesitation of those who in its early stages, afforded the fund their warmest support, ought not therefore to be entirely attributed to either apathy on their part, or to their disapproval of the regulations.—*Ibid*.

EXECUTION OF A SOLDIER AT AGRA.

The troops of the station were assembled according to order, shortly after day break on the morning of the 24th October, on the Parade Ground of the 13th Light Infantry, when the "cursed tree," with the "fatal noose," were prepared for the execution of Private John Douolly, of H. M. 13th L. I., who had been convicted of the murder of his comrade. The troops having been drawn up in three sides of a square with the gallows in the centre of the blank, or fourth side, the procession advanced, and on arriving at the right of the troops, the band struck up the dead march, which was played with the most exquisite modulation, and the first melancholy sounds of which seemed to strike deep into the hearts of all present, and coming as they did like the harbinger of death, whose hand was directed against the unfortunate man, now just appearing in their rear his coffin borne immediately before him, excited feelings of commiseration for the condition of the prisoner, who in a few minutes was to be

hurried "before the judgment seat of Christ, to receive the things done in his body."—If ever there is a time, when pity can so far surpass the dominion of our bosom so as to make us regret the stern inflexibility of justice, it is at such a time as this, and I feel confident that there was scarcely an individual present of the 24th, on whose mind pity for the unhappy state of the prisoner, did not predominate over all other feelings, and who would not much rather have been allowed to have absented himself than have been compelled to witness the scene which was now only commencing.

The prisoner was supported on one side by the Rev. Dr. Parash, who had been with him for the whole of the day and night preceding his execution, and on the other by a non-commissioned officer of the regiment; he was neatly attired in a white dress edged with black which had been prepared for him by the men of his company, and had a black handkerchief tied round his neck, the ends of which were fastened in the shape of a cross on his breast, he moved with a firm step, and appeared heedless of every thing around him; he was followed by the escort, with arms reversed, and on arriving at the centre, the procession halted that the General order might be read, which being done they advanced round past the remainder of the troops to the post of the gallows when the warrant of execution having been read to the prisoner he ascended on to the drop with a firm step accompanied by the chaplain, with whom and on taking his station, he appeared to pray devoutly for some time. On the chaplain taking leave of him, the cap was drawn over his face and the rope adjusted; but no sooner had this been done, than the awfulness of his situation seemed to strike him with all its force, and as the powers of nature were failing him and he appeared to be sinking, the drop fell and he was precipitated into eternity almost without a struggle. The body after hanging for one hour was taken down and disposed of as usual.

It has been said by some that the cause of the prisoner's falling, in appearing to faint, before the drop fell was that he was nearly choked by the tightness with which the executioner pulled the rope round his neck; but this is a mistake; at the time he sunk, the rope was loose, and it is not difficult to account for his strength failing him when we consider that independently of his being in a weak state of health he was now without the support he had when marching round the square, and that he felt in all probability at this instant the full effect of a guilty conscience.—*Correspondent of the Mofussil Ukhbar*.

BOMBAY.

PRESENTATION OF COLOURS TO THE EUROPEAN REGIMENT.—On Tuesday the 8th October, a splendid and most interesting Military spectacle was exhibited at Poona, on the presentation of the new Colours, by the Right Hon'ble the Earl of Clare, Governor of Bombay, to that distinguished old regiment, the Bombay Europeans.

At 5 o'clock P. M. the weather having most auspiciously cleared up, after some heavy rain, the Troops were formed in three sides of a square, in double lines. The Horse Artillery and 4th Light Dragoons forming the rear or second line. The Bombay European Regiment was formed in line 30 paces in front of the centre face of the square. The approach of the Right Hon'ble the Governor was announced by a salute of 19 Guns from the Horse Artillery, and by a General Salute from the whole Brigade. The B. E. Regt. was then wheeled back and formed into close columns of wings facing inwards, and the space between the two centre companies became the arena for the ceremony. A large drum was placed in the centre, on which Lieut. Col. Wood, Commanding the Regt. placed the Colours cross-wise, and with the two senior Ensigns, and two Colour Sergeants, awaited the approach of Lord Clare, who was accompanied by Sir Colin and Lady Halkett, Sir James Stevenson Barnes, with all the General, Division, and Brigade Staff, and several Ladies and Gentlemen, and the Rev. Randall Ward, Military Chaplain of the station, who, being called upon by the Brigadier, Colonel Sullivan, offered up a short prayer appropriate to the occasion.

The Right Hon'ble the Earl of Clare then received from the hands of the ~~present~~ Colonel, the new Colours, when His Lordship addressed the Regt. in the following energetic and eloquent words:—

"It has fallen to my lot, and I can assure you all a more agreeable duty could not have been imposed on me, this day to present to you, your new colors, and I must crave your indulgence for a short time, in order that I may make a few remarks on your old colors now about to be furled, and on the new Colors which I shall present to the Regiment.

I believe I am quite correct in stating that I address the oldest Regiment in

the service of the Hon'ble Company, and its origin may be dated from certain independent companies, sent out to this country by King Charles the 2nd, about the middle of the seventeenth century to garrison the Fort and Island of Bombay, then ceded to us by the King of Portugal. At what period these companies were embodied into one Corps, does not exactly appear, but the honors you have gained since that time, at the glorious Siege of Seringapatam, on the victorious field of Kurkee, and against the Arabs in the Persian Gulph at Benni-hoo-Alli, are too remarkable for me to pass by in silence.

Who has not heard of Serjeant Graham of the Bombay European Regiment, who first planted the British Union on the ramparts of Seringapatam? What soldier is there, whose heart does not beat high, when he reflects on the renown which that brave man shed on his corps, who met his fate in the moment of victory, and almost with his last breath, shouted Hurrah for Lieutenant Graham!—I am no soldier, but as an Englishman, I should be really ashamed to confess, that I did not feel exultation when I call to mind his gallant conduct. To you all I say it, and I say it with perfect truth, there are at this moment, many Serjeant Grahams in the Bombay European Regiment.

In alluding to the capture of Seringapatam, for which the Hero of that glorious day, the late lamented Sir David Baird, and the gallant force serving under him, received the well deserved thanks of a British Parliament, and of the Court of Directors, I feel confident it cannot fail, also, to be a source of gratification to the Regiment, that, it there served in company with the Duke of Wellington—with that unrivalled Captain in whose praise no tongue is silent—who has wreathed about the sword of England, laurels as unfading as those which encircled her Trident. Though to Europe we must look as the later Theatre of his exertions—the more memorable witness of his fame—still it must always be remembered, that, in this country, your Regiment witnessed the commencement of his glorious career, which, after a series of triumphs unparalleled in the annals of the world, was at last closed on the field of Waterloo, until a new war shall again call him forth to lead the British Armies to conquest.

From these subjects of exultation to the Regiment at the close of the last century, I turn to your glorious achievements at the battle of Kirkee. The circumstances of that memorable day are too fresh in the recollection of every one to make it necessary for me particularly to allude to them. On that hill stood the faithless ally, the perfidious prince, who, confident in his vain gods and in the number of his undisciplined troops, there witnessed the downfall of his empire, and the triumph of the British Army. Well and bravely did the Bombay European Regiment on that day earn for itself the additional honor it has since borne; for at no former period was the devoted gallantry of the British Army, and the incorruptible fidelity of our brave Sepoys more conspicuous. I pass onward from the general pacification of this country in 1818, to the year 1821, when the Bombay European Regiment was again employed in active service, under the orders of Sir Lionel Smith, against the Arabs in the Persian Gulph, when you entered their capital in triumph, and by your prowess added to your former honors. In whatever quarter you have been engaged, I find the gallantry and good conduct of the Bombay Regiment equally remarkable. Wherever you have been present, I find you have invariably increased your reputation. Bear witness Seringapatam; bear witness the field of Kirkee; bear witness Banniboo-Alli on your Colors, and let me assure you, that I feel confident, in the event of another war, you will add to all these honors.

I now present to you your Colors. Into braver and safer hands than the hands of the Officers of the Bombay European Regiment I cannot commit British Colors. To you I say it, and I would that every one now present could hear me under these Colors in the righteous cause of your country. The Bombay European Regiment will ever fight its way to victory.

His Lordship then presented the Colors to the Ensigns when they were unfurled, and the British ensigns waved proudly before the assembled host. His Lordship then retired to the General Flag: The B. E. Regt. was brought back to its original position and a General Salute from the whole Brigade, at the command of Colonel Sullivan,

did homage to the newly presented Colors.

The Brigade then passed his Lordship in order of review, and the mounted Corps after passing in slow time, returned by the left at a canter, which concluded the movements of the day with great éclat.

The Earl of Clare, Sir Colin and Lady Halkett, and a small party, honored Lieut. Col. and Mrs. Wood with their company at dinner, from whence they proceeded about 10 p. m. to a splendid Ball and Supper given by the Officers of the B. E. Regt. to the whole of the society at Poona, who were invited "to meet Lord Clare, on the occasion of the presentation of the Colors." The mess room was brilliantly fitted up, the supper was laid in a large durbar tent adjoining, all the arrangements were most complete, and the evening and night passed in social pleasure and convivial enjoyment.

COLONELS SYKES AND ROBERTSON.—We observe that Lieutenant-Colonel Archibald Robertson and Lieutenant-Colonel Sykes, both of this presidency, have declared themselves candidates for the East Indian Direction, and we wish them the success they merit. We think it a subject of congratulation to all interested in the good government of this country, that such individuals offer themselves for the discharge of this important duty, eminently calculated as they are from their qualifications, to do it justice. To the great majority of our readers the name of Colonel Robertson must be well known, and they will no doubt anticipate, as we do, the greatest advantages from his election to the situation to which he aspires; confiding in the exercise of those sterling qualities of sound judgment, activity, and rectitude, so uniformly displayed by him in his revenue management, which was marked in the constant prosperity of the country under his charge, and improvement of the resources of Government; and in his admirable settlement of the Bheel tribes in Candeish, whom he found robbers and freebooters, and left, by his wise institutions (still in force, and the better known the more highly appreciated) contented and obedient subjects. Colonel Robertson was also employed very advantageously to Government, and with the greatest credit to himself, in revising the old, and framing the new, or Elphinstone code, now the law of this Presidency: and he latterly filled the Political office of Resident at Sattara, where he endeared himself to the Prince by

his kind and frank disposition ; and led a force, as its military commander, against the fortress of Akulcote, the accounts of his operations at which place have been before noticed in our columns, and met the approbation of the Government. Lieutenant-Colonel Sykes is distinguished for his great zeal in philosophical and literary researches. He at one time commanded a battalion of the Paishwa's organized infantry under Major Ford, and subsequently, from his turn for scientific pursuits, was selected by Mr. Elphinstone to succeed Doctor Marshall as statistical reporter in the Deccan, in the course of which last duty he wrote several learned reports, and made an extensive, and, we observe from the English prints, what is considered in England a valuable, collection of specimens of the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms.—*Ibid.*

SERIOUS AFFRAY.—It is with great regret we have to state that another large gang robbery occurred the night before last in the bazar, near the lines of the 11th regiment, involving consequences of the most serious nature. The amount of property carried off did not, we believe, exceed some 2 or 3 thousand rupees ; but from the boldness of the robbery, the hour it was made, and the circumstances which subsequently took place, there can be no doubt that a formidable combination exists to carry on depredations of the kind, against which no ordinary precautions on the part of private individuals or the police will suffice. From what we can learn, it appears that between 8 and 9 o'clock on Thursday night, the magistrates of the centre division were informed that the house of a bannan had been attacked by some forty or fifty people well armed, upon which they proceeded with a considerable body of the constabulary force at their disposal, to the spot to investigate the circumstances of the case ; and that, upon arriving there, they learned that the robbers were supposed, from their appearance, to be sepoys belonging to the native regiments stationed in the island. This, together with the fact of their having fled towards the lines, induced the magistrates to proceed in that direction also, and on their way a sepoy was found, and seized by one of the auxiliary horse employed in the Police.

The magistrates and their party then repaired to the lines of the 11th regt., and, accompanied by the adjutant, mustered the men, upon which some of them were found to be absent. Two of these returned shortly afterwards, and were taken into custody, and the police were then placed in positions round the

lines to watch the approach of the absentees. While on this duty, the men of the 11th made a general attack upon them, with stones, using at the same time the most violent and abusive language. The stones, we understand, were actually thrown in showers, and one of them broke the arm of a hammal who was with the magistrates. Mr. Grey was also hit by them, and most of the men who was with him received more or less severe contusions. — During this attack, the auxiliary horse under the orders of Mr. Willis were with difficulty prevented from breaking into the lines, where, being completely armed, they would probably have caused a considerable loss of life, and might have led to a most desperate fray as the muskets of the native infantry were close at hand, and would undoubtedly have been used to repel their attack. They were, however, in a high state of discipline, and obeyed the orders given to them to remain quiet, until the magistrates with great prudence, withdrew the Police, considering it better to abandon the object they had in view than to risk the loss of life.

It is much to be regretted that both the commanding officer and quartermaster of the 11th were absent at Poona upon the occasion, as their presence might have had the effect of keeping the men of their regiment in a little more order. But, be this as it may, the circumstances that have been brought to light by this affair, when taken with those that lately occurred with regard to the 6th Regt. N. I. are quite sufficient to show the danger to which persons and property in the island will be exposed as long as native troops are quartered in the present manner. It is well known that most of the gang robberies in the island have been attributed to them ; and though the charge has been scouted by some, we imagine few will now be found to deny that it rests upon something more than mere prejudice. It is full time, therefore, that something were done to remove the danger to which the inhabitants are exposed under the present state of things. So long as large bodies of men used to acting in concert, and without any local ties to restrain them, are quartered in the very neighbourhood of the wealthiest and most business part of the island, it is in vain to expect they will resist the temptation to plunder which is thrown in their way. Experience has proved this so completely, that it is only a matter of surprise measures were not taken long ago to remove the native corps from the position they at present occupy. It has now, however, become indispensably necessary to do so ; and this being the general opi-

nion, we trust it will have some weight with Government. Perhaps a public meeting to represent the matter in its proper light, and to show the opinion of the natives as well as Europeans regarding it, might have a good effect; or if this be disapproved of, as the Grand Jury are to meet shortly, we would suggest the propriety of their taking notice of it; for it would be far better that the island should be altogether vacated by the sepoy regiments than that it should be exposed repeatedly to these excesses.—*Courier*.

THE INDIAN ARMY.—We have been favored with the perusal of a letter received from England by the *Boyc*, containing the following very important intelligence on the proposed changes in the Indian Army.

Twelve regiments are to be reduced in India, viz.—six in Bengal, four in Madras, and two in Bombay.

The officers of the reduced regiments are to be allowed to sell their commissions.

A reduction of two Subalterns is to be made in all the other regiments.

Each regiment is to have one additional Captain.

ONE SOOBEDAR COLONEL, and TWO SOOBEDAR CAPTAINS ARE TO BE ADDED TO EACH REGT, AND TO HAVE THE NAME VIRTUAL BARK AND COMMAND AS EUROPEAN FIELD OFFICERS AND CAPTAINS.

Native officers are to be attached as aid-de-camps to the Commander in Chief of each presidency, and to Generals commanding divisions.

Officers are to be permitted openly to purchase out their seniors.

"Other changes," says the letter, "are in contemplation; but THESE ARE ALMOST CERTAIN."

Although not permitted to allude more particularly to the source of this information, we may state that it comes from a quarter of the very highest authority on Indian matters, and, as such, we may fairly consider the alterations referred to as *almost certain*.

What may appear at first sight to render these changes very doubtful, the creation of Soobedar Colonels and Captains will, on further consideration, be found to afford the strongest evidence of their probability. The elevation of the natives in the military profession is perfectly analogous to their late elevation in civil rights; and, even did we not know the kindred source from which this information comes, we should recognise in this tardy measure of liberality to the native soldier the same presiding spirit of legislation to which the natives of India are indebted for the late Grand Jury and Justice Bill of Mr. Grant.—*Gazette*, Sept 14.

MADRAS.

DEATH OF COLONEL COOMBS.—It is with feelings of deep regret that we find the painful duty devolve upon us of recording an event, alike outrageous in its attendant circumstances as in its result it has proved most lamentable and deplorable. It would be difficult to describe the sensation of mingled indignation and horror with which the Presidency was the other day agitated on receiving the account that Lieutenant Colonel J. M. Coombs, had been shot to death by a havildar of the 5th Regiment.

The details we have learnt to be these:—The Brigade was returning from an inspection by the General Commanding the Division in ball-firing. It was then dusk, but not dark; and the Brigadier, ere turning off to his house, had stopped to see the Brigade pass. He was then about ten paces distant from the Rifle Company of the 5th, when a shot was suddenly fired. The unfortunate Brigadier reeled in his saddle; and, attempting to dismount, staggered and fell into the arms of Lieutenant Mackenzie, the Adjutant of the Regiment, (who had galloped up to his assistance,) exclaiming 'that he was shot!' He was immediately conveyed towards his house, and, while on the road, asked for a mouthful of brandy and water. This was given to him, and, in the act of swallowing it, he expired! The men of the Company had in the mean time secured and disarmed the person who had discharged his piece, and who proved to be Havildar Eiman Ally. He was immediately taken to the Guard house by Captain Minto, his conduct while on the way further confirming the opinion that the wretched man was under the influence of opium! To assign an adequate exciting cause to the dreadful deed appears impossible. Our military readers will readily remember the man, who, in the Malacca campaign, behaved with such intrepidity and resolute courage in saving the life of his officer Lieutenant Wright, and who gained thereby the public approbation of Government in G. O. and promotion to a havildar's rank. This same man, Eiman Ally, had always, we learn, been an especial favourite of his ill-fated victim, who on every occasion had shewn him the greatest kindness and interested himself greatly in him, even to the extent of giving him money on his marriage. We have heard a tale of his having been up the previous night at a ceremony, to which he is also supposed to have gone during the day of the fatal deed, where intoxicating drugs are supposed to have

created a temporary aberration of mind, the only state under which it can well be conceived that the committal of the outrage could have taken place. The havildar, we understand, subsequently declared his intention to have shot Major Winbolt, the Commanding Officer of the 5th Regiment: not finding him, he, under the influence of the evil-inciting drug, sacrificed the first person he knew, and the ill-fated Colonel Coombs became his victim. The last direct cause, which, acting upon a mind already under violent excitement, we may suppose to have exercised a most baneful effect, is said to have been a remark made to Emam Ali by the unfortunate Brigadier on seeing so excellent a shot miss the target in the ball practice: and, in consequence of his general conduct during the firing, the Officer of the Company reported him to Major Winbolt, who directed the Adjutant to cause his attendance at his quarters the following morning.—*Madras Courier*, Oct. 15.

(ANOTHER ACCOUNT).—Whatever may have been the motive of the havildar for taking away the life of Colonel Coombs, there cannot be an officer in the service who does not deeply regret the melancholy event. It is not our intention to insinuate that any blame whatever can attach to the officer of the company to which the havildar belonged; but unless the public are favored with some information too authentic to be disputed, it may appear somewhat singular that the havildar should have been permitted to leave the place of ball practice with a charge in his musket. On occasions of ball practice, we believe, the officer commanding indents for a certain number of rounds.—The cartridges are distributed to the men, and when it is intimated to the officer that they are all expended, he gives his orders to cease firing. The men are then drawn up, and before they are allowed to march off the ground, the officers of the force receive directions to examine the muskets, and the men draw their ramrods and throw them into their guns. The officer of each company passes down, and it is his duty to mark the ramrod of every man's musket. This, we are told, is the ordinary practice. We do not affirm that we are correctly informed; but if so, some explanation appears to be necessary, as to the reason of the havildar having been allowed to march off the ground with his arms loaded.—*Madras Gazette*, Oct. 20.

(ANOTHER ACCOUNT).—We understand that a sepoy of the 4th Golundauze Battalion has been taken up at Palaveram

for writing a threatening anonymous letter to his Adjutant and officer commanding.—This man, it appears, gave the letter to a recruit, with instructions that he should deliver it back to him when on duty at the adjutant's quarters, and pretend that he had found it on the parade ground. The writer of the letter, alluding to the murder of Colonel Coombs, remarks, as we are informed, that there were two other bullets at Palaveram, and that the Adjutant and Commanding Officer would act wisely to be cautious in their conduct.

From this it would appear, that the late unhappy event was not altogether unpremeditated. The wretched man who suffered for the crime, we believe, made no disclosures whatever, which might lead to the detection of any accomplice in the design—but it is to be hoped, that the circumstance under which the anonymous letter was written, will now be fully investigated, and that the parties who have in any manner participated in its concoction, will be brought to entertain a just sense of their duty.

It is also rumoured that the day after the death of Colonel Coombs, it was deemed advisable to search the house of a sepoy who had been regularly sentenced to be punished by a court-martial for using disrespectful language to his superior European Officer, when a sabre and an old musket were found in the premises.—Alarmists might imagine some dark plot, from all these discoveries, since they

—“come not single spies;
But in battalions!”

If it were possible to credit the motives which, it is asserted, have incited these men, it would certainly be difficult to account for the events; but as we do not and cannot believe that anything like a spirit of mutiny is among the troops, we conclude that in one case the man was labouring under the influence of that peculiar species of a mania which is the consequence of infatuation,—and that in the other the sepoy had come in possession of the weapons for the security of himself or his family.—*Gazette*, Nov. 2f

INSTRUCTION IN ESCALADING.—Commanding Officers, we understand, have received instructions to add escalading to the exercises of the troops under their charge.—The practice of this, there can be no doubt, is highly essential to the efficiency of the Infantry in active service—and the benefits which both men and officers will derive from being accustomed to it, are of such importance as to render it particularly desirable to them that

they should be used to this by no means the least dangerous part of storming.

A due consideration for their safety, however, demands that more attention should be paid to the materials of which the ladders are constructed. — At present, we believe, these are made of bamboo — but we grieve to hear that several accidents have happened, particularly at Bangalore, by the ladders giving way under the pressure upon them. There must be a considerable quantity of spare timber in the Company's stores; and if the lives of their servants are deemed of any value, this hint may not be altogether useless.

MURDER. — We learn that a very distressing case of mutiny had occurred at Trichinopoly, which was likely to lead to the death of the offender, a private in His Majesty's 54th Regiment. It appears that after parade this man, walked up to Lieutenant-Colonel Reid who was on horseback surrounded by his officers, and complained that his grog had been stopped; the Colonel asked who was the Captain of his Company. This officer happened not to be present, and the Colonel then informed the man, that he must go to his Captain, and that if he could satisfy him, he would then take the case into consideration: the man saluted, walked back about 8 paces, turned round, levelled and fired. He fortunately missed the Colonel, though he shot away the fore-band of his horse. He was of course seized, and was, when our letter was despatched, under trial for the offence. Of the sentence of course there can be no doubt. We believe this is the first instance on record, of a European Soldier in India firing at his Commandant. — *Bengal Hurkaru.*

CEYLON.

GENERAL ORDERS. — At a General Court Martial held at Colombo on the 9th September, and of which Colonel Edward Darley, 61st Regiment, was President, and Captain Joseph Wynn, of the 58th Regiment, Officiating Judge Advocate. Private John Masterson of No. 2, Company 97th Regiment, was arraigned.

1st. — For absenting himself from his quarters without leave from the 21st to the 26th August, 1833, and for making away with 20 rounds of ball ammunition.

2nd. — For highly mutinous conduct in having in a most daring and outrageous manner, on or about the morning of the 30th of August last, struck Lieut. Joseph Vincent of the 97th Regiment a violent blow with his fist, at the same time exclaiming "Take you that at all events" or words to that effect, he Lieut. Joseph

Vincent, being at the time in the execution of his duty as a member of a Regimental Court Martial, before which he, the Prisoner, Private John Masterson, No. 2, Company 97th Regiment, was about to be tried on the 1st Charge.

3rd. — For highly mutinous conduct in having at the same time and place struck Serjeant-Major Moore of the same regiment, when in the execution of his duty.

The Court found the Prisoner Guilty of the whole of the Charges brought against him, and therefore sentenced him to death by musquetry.

The Major General commanding approved and confirmed the sentence, and appended the following remarks: "It is not without a most painful struggle that the Major General finds himself compelled, under a paramount sense of justice to the service, to direct that the awful sentence pronounced by the Court be carried into effect on Wednesday, the 25th September.

As the Major General can unfortunately hold out no hope of mercy, so will he refrain from adding to the affliction of the unhappy culprit, by any comment either on the tenor of his past life, or the magnitude of his present guilt, persuaded that the Prisoner's own reflections will convince him of the justice of the fate that awaits him, and of the necessity of preparing to meet it with the penitence due to the dreadful crisis before him, as well as in the fortitude becoming the profession to which he belongs." — *Colombo Journal, Sept. 25.*

The following General Orders were issued by the Hon'ble the Major-General, subsequently to the sentence of the Court Martial having been carried into effect on Private Masterson of the 97th Regiment: —

Head Quarters, Colombo, 25th Sept. 1833.

No. 1. — The fatal sentence adjudged to the late Private John Masterson, of the 97th Regiment, having been carried into execution, the Major General is no longer restrained, by motives of commiseration for the feelings of the unhappy sufferer, from addressing to the Army under his command his sentiments on the enormity of that guilt for which the offender has paid the forfeit of his life.

The whole catalogue of military crimes does not present one stamped with a character of deeper guilt than that which forms the painful subject of this Order; nor could the perpetration of such a deed have been characterized by more daring and deliberate intent, than that committed by John Masterson.

A soldier, and at the same time a prisoner brought forth for trial, dared with

outrageous violence to strike his officer, at the very moment when, as a member of a Court Martial, that officer was about to discharge the most solemn of duties by sitting in judgment on this very aggressor; and that no aggravation might be wanting to his guilt, it would appear that, while in prison for offenses previously committed, instead of betaking himself to repentance for those transgressions for which he was about to answer, he did there actually premeditate the commission of the crime which has thus brought him to his untimely end.

If we look back to John Masterson's past military life, we are shocked by the retrospect it presents of an almost unexampled series of crimes and offences, terminating in that guilty act which has at length called for the vindication of the law to place him for ever beyond the power of again offending.

Although the Major-General is concerned to admit that there are exceptions, and serious exceptions, to the general good conduct of the troops under his command; yet, in justice to that better military feeling which greatly predominates in this Army, he will abstain from dwelling on the enormity of a crime which all good soldiers must join him in regarding with indignation and abhorrence.

They know their duty too well not to be impressed with the absolute necessity of the most rigid subordination, and becoming respect towards their military superiors.

It is on this one simple principle of subordination that all military organization is based; it distinguishes disciplined

troops from a licentious rabble, and has raised the British Army to the unrivalled pre-eminence in every military attribute which it holds above that of any other country. The principle of obedience forms the very bond of the soldier's union with the service; it is identified with the sworn loyalty to his Sovereign; and when he violates it, he violates at the same time his oath, his military duty, and his allegiance.

The Major-General cannot close these observations without expressing his deep regret at having heard that there are those who are said to have been base enough to prompt this unfortunate man to commit the crime which he has just expiated with his life. To such monstrous and abominable wickedness it is indeed difficult to give credit; but whoever these fiend-like instigators may be, who could thus recklessly have hurried their misguided comrade to his destruction, the Major-General would have them beware, lest their day of retribution should arrive. It is to them, it is to those also who form the exceptions to which the Major-General has before alluded, that this earnest warning is now addressed, as it is chiefly to them that the late awful example has been held out, in the fervent hope that it will produce the desired effect, that the character of this Army will never more be sullied by the commission of so foul a crime, nor the Major-General ever again be exposed to endure the pain, the indescribable pain, of giving his sanction to so severe, yet so just, a sentence, as that which has this morning been carried into execution.—*Ibid*, Sept. 23.

GENERAL ORDERS BY THE BENGAL GOVERNMENT.

PROMOTIONS.

19TH AUGUST.—17th Regt. N. I.—Capt. J. Oliver to be Major, Lieut. T. Cooke to be Capt. and Ensign G. M. Hill to be Lieut. in succession to J. W. Jones deceased.

19th Regt. N. I.—Ensign F. Lloyd to be Lieut. vice J. Stephen deceased.

24th Regt. N. I.—Ensign J. T. Bush to be Lieut. vice J. G. Sharpe deceased.

Infantry.—Lieut. Col. E. H. Simpson to be Colonel, vice W. H. Wood deceased.

Major D. Presgrave to be Lieut. Col. vice E. H. Simpson.

52d Regt. N. I.—Captain G. Kingston to be Major, and Lieut. T. P. Ellis to be Capt. in succession to D. Presgrave.

Superannumerary Lieut. A. Mackintosh brought on the effective strength of the Regiment.

Medical Department.—Mr. John Colposy Smith, Mr. Francis Thompson, and Mr. James Anderson, M. D., admitted to the service.

19TH SEPTEMBER.—The undermentioned Gentlemen are admitted to the Service as Cadets, and promoted to the rank of 2d Lieutenant and Ensign:

Engineers: Mr. William Jones, .. 1833

Artillery: Mr. John William Kaye, 1833

Infantry: Mr. Thomas Tudor Tucker, 1833.

„ Airburthnot Dallas, 1833.

27TH SEPTEMBER.—Major T. J. Anquetil to be Lieut.-Col. vice W. W. Davis deceased.

18th Regt. N. I.—Lieut. F. W. Anson to be Capt. and Ensign W. W. Davidson to be Lieut. in succession to J. Holyoake

37th Regt. N. I.—Lieut. H. B. Smith to be Capt. and Ensign William Love-

day to be Lieut. in succession to J. W. Patton deceased.

44th Regt. N. I.—Captain O. Stubbs to be Major, Lieut. and Brevet Capt. T. Des Vieux to be Capt., and Ensign Henry Abbott to be Lieut. in succession to T. J. Anquetil.

Medical Department.—Assistant Surgeon Charles Mackinnon to be Surgeon, from the 20th Sept. 1863, vice G. Waddell, M. D., deceased.

3d OCTOBER.—Major Thomas Dundas to be Lieut. Col. vice C. Frye, deceased.

47th N. I.—Capt. R. W. Pogson to be Major; Lieut. and Brevet Capt. J. S. Winfield to be Capt., and Ensign David Pott to be Lieut.; in succession to T. Dundas promoted.

67th N. I.—Ensign F. P. Fulcher to be Lieut. vice W. Cole deceased.

The undermentioned are admitted to the Service, in conformity with their appointment by the Court of Directors, as an Assistant Surgeon and a Veterinary Surgeon on this Establishment:

Medical Department.—Mr. Charles McCurdy.

Veterinary Department.—Mr. Philip Buddry Fox Green.

Mr. Roderick Robertson admitted to the Service, in conformity with his appointment as a Cadet of Infantry.

10th OCTOBER.—**Infantry.**—Major H. L. White to be Lieut. Col. vice S. P. Bishop deceased.

33d N. I.—Capt. A. F. Richmond to be Major, Lieut. F. Hewitt to be Capt., and Ensign C. F. Trower to be Lieut. in succession to C. D'O. Aplin deceased.

36th N. I.—Capt. C. Godby to be Major, Lieut. and Brevet Captain Henry Lloyd to be Capt., and Ensign Charles Upton Tripp to be Lieut. in succession to H. L. White promoted.

The undermentioned are admitted to the Service, in conformity with their appointment as a Cadets of Infantry in this Establishment, and promoted to the rank of Ensign:—**Infantry:** Mr. T. G. Leith and Mr. G. D. Mercer.

19th OCTOBER.—**Artillery.**—1st Lieut. and Brevet Capt. James Paton to be Capt. and 2d Lieut. Charles Ernest Mills to be 1st Lieut. in succession to R. S. B. Morland deceased.

9th N. I.—Lieut. and Brevet Capt. James Woodburn to be Capt. of a Company and Ensign P. D. Eld to be Lieut. in succession to J. D. Herbert dec.

31st OCTOBER.—**Artillery.**—Lieut. Col. C. Parker to be Col., Major S. Shaw to be Lieut. Col. and Capt. R. B. Fulton to be Major, from 31st May 1863, in succession to M. W. Browne dec.

1st Lieut. and Brev. Capt. R. G. Roberts to be Capt., and 2d Lieut. J. F.

Exgerton to be 1st Lieut. vice R. B. Fulton promoted, with rank from 15th Oct. 1863, in succession to R. B. Morland dec.

14th N. I.—Lieut. John Buncombe to be Capt. vice J. W. Hull retired.

Supernum. Lieut. J. H. W. Mayow brought on the effective strength of the regiment.

30th N. I.—Ensign J. S. Harris to be Lieut. vice W. H. Penrose resigned.

The undermentioned are admitted to the Service, in conformity with their appointments as Cadets on this Establishment, and promoted to the rank of 2d Lieut. and Ensign:

Engineers. Mr. W. T. Bance; Artillery, Mr. H. E. L. Thuillier; Infantry, Mr. E. D. Atkinson.

7th NOVEMBER.—**Artillery.**—Captain T. Chadwick to be Major, 1st Lieut. W. J. Symons to be Captain, and 2d Lieut. George Hall McGregor to be 1st Lieut. in succession to N. S. Webb deceased.

32d Regt. N. I.—Supernumerary Ensign T. S. Horsburgh is brought on the effective strength of the Regiment, vice G. Dorant transferred to the Pension Establishment.

15th NOVEMBER.—16th Regt. N. I.—Lieut. C. S. Barberie to be Captain, and Ensign John Hoppe to be Lieut. in succession to A. Macdonald deceased.

Supernumerary Ensign T. J. Gardiner is brought on the effective strength of the regiment.

The undermentioned Officers are brought on the effective strength of this Establishment, from the dates expressed opposite to their names:

Artillery.—2d Lieut. C. Stewart, 15th October 1863, in succession to Captain R. S. B. Morland deceased.

Infantry.—Ensign T. C. Richardson, 8th October, 1865, in succession to Major C. D'Oly Aplin deceased.

APPOINTMENTS.

2d OCTOBER.—Lieut. George Borradale, of the 49th N. I., to be a Major of Brigade, on the Establishment, vice Arabin deceased.

Assistant Surgeon William Spencer to the Medical duties of the Civil Station of Moradabad, vice Assistant Surgeon McK. Clark, who is permitted to proceed to Europe on furlough.

Assistant Surgeon E. Tritton to the Medical duties of the Civil Station of Allypore, vice Mackinnon promoted to the rank of Surgeon.

Col. Robert Stewenson, C. B. to the General Staff of the Army, with the rank of Brigadier General, from the 7th November next, in succession to Brigadier Ge-

neral Carpenter, whose tour on the Staff will expire on that date.

The undermentioned Officers to be 1st Assistants to the Great Trigonometrical Survey.

Lieut. R. Macdonald, of the 69th N. I. and Lieut. A. H. E. Boileau, of the Engineers.

10TH OCTOBER.—Lieut. G. E. Westmacott, 37th N. I. to be Junior Assistant to the Agent to the Gov. Gen. North East Frontier, vice Captain Roxburgh proceeding to Europe on furlough.

Captain W. Minto, 18th N. I. to be attached to Scindiah's Contingent as a temporary arrangement, in the room of Lieut. Ross appointed Assistant to the Resident at Gwalior.

Lieut. T. F. Blois, of the 11th N. I. to be an Aide-de Camp on His Lordship's Personal Staff, vice Major Benson proceeded to Europe.

Captain T. M. Taylor, of the 5th Regt. L. C. to be Military Secretary to His Lordship, from the 4th ultimo, vice Major Benson, proceeded to Europe on furlough.

15TH OCTOBER.—General the Right Honorable Lord William Cavendish Bentinck, G. C. B. and G. C. H., having been appointed to be Commander in Chief of all His Majesty's Land Forces serving in the Territories of the Honorable Company, and of all the Company's Military Forces in the East Indies, accordingly this day assumed the command of the army.

Captain R. Home, of the 73d Reg. N. I. to officiate as Secretary to the Clothing Board, vice Captain Ripley, and during the absence of Captain Cubitt.

17TH OCTOBER.—Major G. W. A. Loyd, of the 71st N. I. to proceed to

Rungpore, to be employed on special duty on the North East Frontier.

19TH OCTOBER.—Captain J. A. Crommelin, of the Corps of Engineers, to be Executive Engineer of the 1st or Dum-Dum Division of Public Works, vice Captain Patton deceased.

Lieut. W. M. Smyth, of the Corps of Engineers, at present in charge of the 1st Division of Public Works, on being relieved from it, to the temporary charge of the 7th or Burdwan Division of Public Works, during such time as Captain Bell may continue to officiate as Superintending Engineer of the Cuttack Province.

23TH OCTOBER.—Surgeon F. S. Matthews appointed to the 35th N. I., to relieve Surgeon J. M. Todd.

31ST OCTOBER.—Assistant Surgeon W. Rait is appointed to the 1st Brigade Horse Artillery, and directed to join the 3d Troop at Dum-Dum, in the room of Assistant Surgeon J. S. Login, M. D. appointed to the Nizam's Service.

7TH NOVEMBER.—The undermentioned Officers to officiate as Assistants in the Department of Revenue Surveys:

1st Lieut. John Fordyce, of Artillery.

Lieut. James Nathaniel Rind, of the 37th N. I. attached to the Pioneer Corps.

15TH NOVEMBER.—Assistant Surgeon F. H. Brett attached to the Civil Station of Shajehanpore, to the Medical duties of the Civil Station of Moradabad, vice Assistant Surgeon A. M. Clark, proceeded to Europe on furlough.

Major-General J. W. Sleigh, C. B., of His Majesty's Service, appointed Military Secretary to His Excellency the Commander in Chief.

GENERAL ORDERS BY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

REMOVALS AND POSTINGS.

6TH SEPTEMBER.—*Artillery*—Capt. S. Coulthard, from the 4th Comp. 5th to 4th Comp. 3d Bat.

—Capt. H. Timings, new promotion, to the 4th Comp. 5th Bat.

1st Lieut. H. Rutherford, from 1st Comp. 4th to the 4th Comp. 5th Bat.

1st Lieut. W. C. J. Lawin, from the 4th Comp. to the 1st Comp. 4th Bat.

1st Lieut. G. F. C. Fitzgerald, new promotion, to the 4th Comp. 4th Bat.

1st Lieut. G. Larkins, new promotion, to the 2d Troops 1st Brigade.

1st Lieut. W. O. Young, new promotion, to the 3d Comp. 2d Bat.

2d Lieut. L. Smith, from the 4th Comp. 2d to the 1st Comp. 2d Bat.

2d Lieut. B. H. Baldwin, from the 5th Comp. 7th to the 4th Comp. 1st Bat.

2d Lieut. G. H. McGregor, from the 4th Comp. 1st to the 4th Comp. 7th Bat.

2d Lieut. M. Mackenzie, from the 3d Comp. 2d Bat. to the 2d Troops 1st Brigade.

2d Lieut. J. Greene (on furlough) to the 3d Comp. 6th Bat.

19TH SEPT.—Ensign D. S. Beck is removed from the 17th, and re-appointed to the 7th N. I., at his own request.

27TH SEPT.—Ensign W. H. Hammersley removed from the 60th, and re-appointed to the 41st N. I., at his own request.

Ensign H. Howorth, of the 39th, permitted to do duty with the 55th N. I. at Barrackpore, from the 15th September until the 1st of February 1834, when he will proceed and join his own corps at Delhi.

26TH SEPT.—Captain J. Swetenham, of the 10th, will join and do duty with the 50th N. I. until the arrival of his own regiment at Barrackpore, in the ensuing relief.

Ensign J. K. Spence, of the 20th, to join and do duty with the 48th N. I., from the 1st Dec. until the arrival of that regiment at Seelapore, in the course of the relief.

supernumerary 2d Lieut. G. Kirby, of Artillery, is directed to do duty with the 1st Company 2d Battalion at Nusseerabad.

27TH SEPT.—Major W. H. Hewitt, of the 40th Regt. directed to join and do duty with the 49th N. I.; and Major H. O'Donel, when relieved from the command of that Corps, will rejoin the 13th N. I., to which he belongs.

3d OCT. Lieut. Col. H. Cock is removed from the 23d to the 30th N. I., and Lieut. Col. T. Murray, from the 30th to the 23d Regiment. These removals are to have effect from the 1st proximo.

Assistant Surgeon A. Bryce, M. D., posted to the 7th Battalion of Artillery.

3d OCT.—Snp. Ensign J. C. Robertson, attached to the 2d, directed to join and do duty with the 34th N. I. at Midnapore.

Snp. Ensign A. E. Dick, attached to the 64th, and now on leave of absence at Allahabad, is directed to join and do duty with the 6th N. I. at that station.

4TH OCT. Ensign A. Martin is removed from the 47th, and posted to the 33d N. I., at his own request.

Sup 2d Lieuts. J. L. D. Start, N. C. Macleod, and W. Jones, of Engineers, are directed to proceed to Delhi, and do duty with the Sappers and Miners.

10TH OCT.—*Artillery*—Major N. S. Webb, from the 2d to the 3d Battalion, and Major G. Everest, from the 3d to the 2d Battalion.

Ensign H. J. Mainwaring is removed from the 13th to the 1st N. I., as junior of his rank, at his own request.

Ensign C. L. Edwards is removed from the 4th to the 24th N. I. as junior of his rank, at his own request.

Ensign W. W. Steer is removed from the 5th to the 37th N. I. at his own request.

11TH OCT.—Lieut. and Brevet Capt. H. C. McKenly, of the 41st N. I., permitted, on the expiration of his present leave, to join and do duty with the 30th Regt. at Almorah.

15TH OCT.—Colonel E. H. Simpson, (new promotion) to the 25th N. I.

Lieut. Col. A. Hardy, (on furlough) from the 13th to the 8th N. I.

Lieut. Col. E. Wyatt, from the 8th to the 4th N. I.

Lieut. Col. D. Presgrave (new promotion) to the 18th N. I.

Lieut. Col. A. Brown, (on furlough) from the 4th to the 25th N. I.

Lieut. Col. T. J. Anquetil (new promotion) to the 44th N. I.

Lieut. Col. T. Murray, from the 23d to the 2d N. I.

Lieut. Col. J. Simpson, from the 22d to the 23d N. I.

Lieut. Col. C. W. Hamilton, from the 64th to the 27th N. I.

Lieut. Col. Sir J. Bryant, Kt., from the 36th to the 64th N. I.

Surgeon C. Mackinnon (new promotion) to the 15th N. I.

Surgeon T. S. Child, (on furlough) from the 15th to the 53d N. I.

Surgeon B. Bell, from the 10th to the 60th N. I.

Surgeon A. Scott, from the 60th to the 7th N. I.

Surgeon D. Renton, from the 7th to the 10th N. I.

Assistant Surgeon W. Spencer, from the 15th to the 14th N. I.

Assistant Surgeon W. Dollard, from the 54th to the 7th N. I.

Assistant Surgeon J. Hardie, (on furlough) from the 7th to the 74th N. I.

Assistant Surgeon W. Sheriff, doing duty with the 3d Brigade Horse Artillery, is posted to that Brigade, and attached to the 1st Troop at Kurnaul.

Lieut. T. Quin, of the 4th, L. C. is permitted to join and do duty with the 10th at Kurnaul, from the 1st December until the 1st of March next.

Lieut. H. Stone of the 49th, is permitted to do duty with the 52d N. I., at Dacca, from the 20th instant until the 30th of October 1834.

16TH OCT.—Brigadier General Stevenson is posted to the Cawnpore division.

Brigade Major Borradaile is posted to Barrackpore.

Lieut. Col. T. Shubrick removed from the 5th to the 2d of the 5th L. C.

Lieut. Col. H. T. Roberts, C. B., removed from the 2d L. C.

Ensign R. N. Raikes is removed from the 36th to the 67th N. I., at his own request, as junior of his rank.

Ensign J. S. Hawke is removed from the 22d to the 7th Regt. N. I., as junior of his rank, at his own request.

The undermentioned Ensigns are posted to their respective names, and directed to join:—G. Ramsey 25th N. I. in Arracan; W. M. Roberts 16th N. I. at Buitool; F. B. Bosanquet 16th N. I. at Mhow; H. P. Budd 17th N. I. at Nusseerabad; W. D. Goodyer 87th N. I. at Cuttack; J. D. Ferguson 36th N. I. at Mhow; G. Verner, (on furlough) 9th N.

I. at Agra; W. More 25th N. I. in Arracan; H. D. Van Homrigh 48th N. I. at Barrackpore; J. C. Phillips 60th N. I. at Cawnpore; A. Sanders 44th N. I. at Bareilly; II. J. Michell 22d N. I. at Lucknow; J. H. Fergusson 19th N. I. at Barrackpore; F. H. Hawtrej 37th N. I. at Meerut; F. Sheriff 65th N. I. at Mhow; F. E. Voyle 39th N. I., at Delhi; S. Arden 37th N. I., at Hansi; G. Elliot (on furlough) 18th N. I., at Baitool; T. J. Gardiner 16th N. I., at Mhow; R. H. Sale 10th N. I. at Cawnpore; G. A. Fisher 17th N. I., at Nusseerabad; D. A. Campbell 52d N. I., at Meerut; C. C. Skelton 47th N. I., at Cuttack.

6TH NOV.—Lieut. Col. P. Lefevre, from the 2d to the 10th N. I.

Kient. Col. T. Gough, from the 15th to the 16th N. I.

Lieut. Col. R. B. Jenkins, from the 58th to the 16th N. I.

Lieut. Col. A. Lockett, from the 16th to the 58th N. I.

ASSIGNMENTS OF RANK.

27TH SEPTEMBER.—*Infantry*.—Ensign Shirreff, 21st Aug. 1833, vice J. Gibb deceased.

Ensign F. E. Voyle, 22d August 1833, in succession to Lieut. M. T. White transferred to the Invalid Establishment.

Ensign S. Arden, 22d Aug. 1833, in succession to Ensign W. H. Massie resigned.

Ensign G. Elliot, 22d August 1833, in succession to Lieut. Colonel R. L. Dickson retired.

Ensign T. J. Gardiner, 24th August 1833, in succession to Lieut. A. M. Methven deceased.

3d OF OCTOBER.—*Artillery*.—2d Lieut. William Kirby Warner, 3d Sept. 1833, vice 2d Lieut. T. Gray deceased.

Infantry.—Ensign Charles Cornwallis Skelton, 3d Sept. 1833, in succession to Lieut. J. Stephen deceased.

17TH OF OCTOBER.—*Infantry*.—Ensign G. S. H. Browne, 12th Sept. in succession to Captain J. Holyoake deceased.

Ensign T. W. Oldfield, 15th Sept. in succession to Lieutenant Colonel W. W. Davis deceased.

Ensign H. F. S. Abbott, 16th Sept. in succession to Major J. W. Jones deceased.

Ensign G. N. Grege, 16th Sept. in succession to Lieutenant J. G. Sharpe deceased.

19TH OCTOBER.—*Infantry*.—Ensign Robert Hay, 18th September, 1833, in succession to Captain J. W. Patton deceased.

Ensign Andrew Edward Dick, 19th September, 1833, in succession to Lieut. Colonel C. Frye deceased.

Medical Department.—*Assistant Surgeons*.—James Gregory Vos, M. D., 18th Sept. 1832; John Hugh Wharrie Waugh, 2d Dec. 1832; David William Nash, 8th Dec. 1832; James Henry Dallas, M. D. 13th Jan. 1833; and John Wilkie, M. D. 26th Feb. 1833.

Infantry.—Ensign R. H. Sale, 27th Aug. 1833, in succession to Lieut. C. J. C. Collins, deceased.

Ensign G. A. Fisher, 30th August, 1833, in succession to Lieut. J. V. Law transferred to the Pension Establishment.

Ensign D. A. Campbell, 1st Sept. 1833, in succession to Lieut. A. Arabin deceased.

31st OCTOBER.—*Infantry*.—Ensign P. G. Cornish, 22d Sept. in succession to Lieutenant William Cole deceased.

Ensign P. D. Warren, 25th Sept. 1833, in succession to Captain J. D. Herbart deceased.

Ensign R. Inglis, 26th Sept. in succession to Lieut. Col. S. P. Bishop deceased.

ALTERATIONS OF RANK.

OCTOBER 31st.—*Artillery*.—Capt. H. Timings and 1st Lt. G. Larkins, with rank from 31st May, 1833, vice B. R. Fulton promoted.

Ditto.—Capt. J. Paton, with rank from 20th July, 1833, vice J. Marshall deceased.

Ditto.—1st Lt. W. O. Young, with rank from 25th July, 1833, vice W. T. Garret *ditto*.

Di to.—1st Lt. C. E. Mills, with rank from 29th July 1833, vice J. Paton promoted.

30th Native *Infantry*.—Lieut. W. H. Ross, with rank from 28th January, 1833, vice W. H. Penrose resigned.

FURLONGHS.

27TH SEPTEMBER.—Lieut. S. Mallock, of the Corps of Engineers, permitted to proceed to Europe, on medical certificate.

Assistant Surgeon Alex. McKenzie Clarke, attached to the Civil Station of Moradabad, to Europe, on account of his private affairs.

1st OCTOBER.—Ensign A. Q. Hopper, of the 24th N. I. to proceed to the Mauritius, on medical certificate, for eighteen months.

3d OCTOBER.—Captain James Roxburgh, of the 39th N. I. (Junior Assistant to the Agent to the Governor General, North East Frontier) to Europe on medical certificate.

10th OCTOBER.—Captain J. P. Ripley of the Left Wing European Regiment,

and Officiating Secretary to the Clothing Board, to Europe on furlough, on medical certificate.

17TH OCTOBER.—Lieut. William John Cude, of the 18th N. I. to Europe, on medical certificate.

19TH OCTOBER.—2d Lieut. Frederick Wall, of the Artillery, is permitted to proceed to Van Diemen's Land via the Mauritius, on medical certificate, for two years.

31ST OCTOBER.—Major Hugh Caldwell, of the 49th N. I. Superintendent of the Mysore Princes, and A.-de-C. to the Governor General, permitted to proceed to Europe, on account of his private affairs. The furlough of Major Caldwell commences from the date of his quitting the limits of the Madras Presidency, whither he has proceeded on public duty.

Captain William Ellis of the 45th N. I. permitted to proceed to Europe on furlough, on account of his private affairs.

11TH NOVEMBER.—The undermentioned are permitted to proceed to Europe on medical certificates:—Lieut. and Brevet Captain Alexander Mercer, of the 17th N. I.; Lieut. William Tritton, of the 41st N. I.; and Ensign Collin McFarquhar Collins, of the 25th N. I.

The undermentioned permitted to proceed to Europe on furlough:

Captain A. Jackson, of the 30th N. I. on account of his private affairs, and Lieut. N. S. Nesbitt, of the 22d N. I. on medical certificate.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The unexpired portion of the extension of six months' leave of absence granted to Surgeon Simon Nicolson, Presidency Surgeon, cancelled.

Lieutenant Keith Young, of the 50th Regt. N. I. returned to his duty.

The undermentioned Officers have returned to their duty.

Lieutenant Colonel Thos Shubrick, of the 5th Regt. C.

Lieut. Alexander Kerr Agnew, of the 6th Regt. N. I.

Assistant Surgeon Alex. Bryce, M. D., of the Medical Department.

The Commander in Chief having brought to the notice of Government the Proceedings of a Court of Enquiry, held at Meerut, to investigate the circumstances attending an assault committed by Ensign C. R. Vickers, of the 52nd Regt. N. I. on Beekah, a Syce in his employ; and it appearing that Ensign Vickers did, without cause, beat the said Syce, in a wanton and cruel manner, on the 25th of that month, the Governor General in Council, with reference to repeated General Orders on the subject of cruelty to Natives, proposes

to submit the case for the Orders of the Honorable the Court of Directors, and desires that Ensign Vickers, on the receipt of this Order at Meerut, be removed from all military duty, with permission to reside at any Station of the Army under this Presidency, receiving the pay, half batta and gratuity of his Regimental rank, pending the decision of the Honorable Court.

The Major-General Commanding the Meerut Division will report to the Adjutant General of the Army the Station at which Ensign Vickers may wish to reside.

31st October.—The undermentioned Officers have returned to their duty

Lieut. Col P. LeFevre, of the 2d Regt. N. I.; Lieut. Col. R. B. Jenkins, of the 58th Regt. N. I.; Captain William Forbes, of the 61st Regt. N. I.; Captain J. C. Witherspoon, of the 70th Regt. N. I.; 1st Lieut. Henry Clerke, of the Regiment of Artillery; and Surgeon James Atkinson of the Medical Department.

The following arrangements have been made in the Political Department, under date the 17th instant:

Major G. W. A. Lloyd of the 71st Regt. N. I. to proceed to Rungpore, to be employed on special duty on the North East Frontier, as soon as he may be relieved from the duties of the Committee on which he is now engaged at Hauper.

Assistant Surgeons J. S. Login, M. D., and D. W. Nash, to be placed at the disposal of the Resident at Hyderabad, for employment in the Military Service of His Highness the Nizam.

Mr. R. Maling to be attached to the Arracan Local Corps, on a monthly allowance of Sonat Rupees (200) two hundred, and with the rank of Local Lieut.

Ensign W. A. J. Mayhew, of the 8th Regt. N. I. has returned to his duty.

7TH NOV.—Capt Sir Robert Colquhoun, Bart. of the 44th N. I. Town and Fort Major of Fort William, having returned to the Presidency, resumes his official duties.

APPOINTMENTS.

20th Sept.—22d N. I. Ensign J. D. M. pherson to be Interpreter and Quarter Master, vice Lieut. Nesbitt, who has been permitted to resign the appointment.

2dN SEPT.—Engineers.—Lieut. C. S. Guthrie to be Adjutant, vice Laughton attached to the Persian Army.

56th N. I. Lieut. C. Fowle to be Adjutant, vice Methven deceased.

70th N. I.—Ensign J. T. Ferguson to be Interpreter and Quarter Master, vice Mercer, resigned

Lieut. and Adjutant T. B. Tait of the 4th Regiment of Local Horse, to act as 2d in Command, during the absence of Lieutenant Walker, or until further orders

Ensign R. Hill, of the 4th N. I., to act as Adjutant to the 4th Regiment of Local Horse, vice Tait.

Cornet R. I. Robinson, of the 7th Regt. L. C. to be 2d in command of the 3d Local Horse, vice Meade, who resigns.

1st OCTOBER.—20th Regt N. I.—Lieutenant J. C. Scott to be Interpreter and Quarter Master, vice Ludlow promoted.

2d OCTOBER.—Assistant Surgeon A. K. Lindsay is appointed to officiate as Garrison Surgeon at Chunar, during the absence on leave of Surgeon Clarke, or until further orders.

Captain J. A. Crommelin, of Engineers, recently placed at the disposal of the Commander in Chief, directed to join and do duty with the Sappers and Miners at Delhi.

Surgeon W. Panton, of the 51st N. I., is appointed to officiate as Superintending Surgeon to the Neemuah Circle, during the absence of Superintending Surgeon Venour.

Ensign D. Ramsay, of the 37th N. I., appointed Aide-de-Camp to Major-General the Honorable J. Ramsay, vice Caine who resigns the appointment.

9th OCT.—Assistant Surgeon J. Esdall, M. D., appointed to the Medical charge of the Left Wing of the 6th Regt N. I., at Jaunpore as a temporary arrangement.

11th OCT.—12th N. I.—Ensign J. H. Ferris to be Adjutant, vice Ludlow, who has been permitted to resign the situation.

15th OCT.—Surgeon F. S. Mathews is appointed to the 34th N. I.

16th OCT.—Lieutenant R. M. Hunter, of the 73d N. I., is appointed to the Pioneers, vice Borradaile appointed a Brigade Major on the Establishment.

19th OCT.—2d N. I.—Ensign H. M. Nation to be Adjutant, vice Lieut. Chester, who has been permitted to resign that situation.

21st OCT.—Captain L. H. Smith, of the 6th Light Cavalry, is appointed to officiate as Aide-de-Camp to Brigadier General R. Stevenson, C. B. This appointment to have effect from the 7th proximo.

Assistant Surgeon H. Maclean, of the Mhairwarra Local Bat. is appointed to the Medical charge of the Nusseree Bat. from the 1st proximo, as a temporary arrangement.

NOVEMBER 7th.—Lieut. M. Hyslop, of the 59th N. I., at present acting as Interpreter and Quarter Master to the 1th N. I., is appointed to officiate in the same situation with his own Corps.

14th NOV.—11th N. I.—Lieut. C. Wyndham, 35th N. I., to act as Interpreter and Quarter Master, vice Hyslop ordered to his own regiment.

11th N. I.—Ensign W. Lydiard to be Adjutant, from the 7th instant, vice Blois appointed to a Staff situation.

70th N. I.—Ensign F. Jeffreys to be Interpreter and Quarter Master, vice Fergusson deceased.

Lieut. J. V. Forbes to act as Adjutant to the Right Wing of the 15th Regt. N. I. in the room of Lieut. Gordon directed to join the head-quarters of that corps at Mooradabad.

Lieut. A. H. Shephard to act as Adjutant to the Left Wing of the 14th N. I. during its separation from the head-quarters of the regt.

Ensign W. C. Erskine to act as Adjutant the 73d Regt. N. I., during the absence on leave of Lieut. and Adjutant Thomas.

J. H. W. Waugh to do duty with His Majesty's 13th N. I., is confirmed.

Lieut. J. T. Gordon to act as Adjutant to the 5th N. I., during the absence on leave of Lieut. and Adj. Evans.

Ensign George Ramsay, of the 25th Regiment, to continue doing duty with the 43d N. I. at Secrora, until further orders.

Ensign J. H. Fergusson, of the 19th N. I., to continue doing duty with the 33d N. I., at Cuttack, until further orders.

18th NOV.—44th N. I.—Ensign R. Grange to be Interpreter and Quarter Master.

Lieut. C. R. Browne, of the 60th Regt. to act as Interpreter and Quarter Master to the 59th N. I., until Lieut. M. Hyslop shall join the corps.

At a General Court Martial, assembled at Meerutt on Tuesday the 19th of July, 1833, of which Colonel H. Oglander of His Majesty's 26th or Cameronians, was President, Captain G. H. Cox, of the 6th Regt. N. I. was arraigned on the following charges:

"1st. In having, at Landour, addressed an intemperate and offensive note, dated the 23d April, 1833, in reply to a note from Lieutenant and Brevet Captain John Tritton, of His Majesty's 11th Regiment of Light Dragoons.

"2d. In having not officially replied to a public letter addressed by Captain Tritton to him, the said Captain Cox, dated Landour, 23d April, 1833, requesting information on a point of an official nature, but persisted in treating as a private quarrel between himself and the said Captain Tritton, what Captain Tritton had informed him, he, Captain Tritton, had made a matter of public discussion, and would consider in no other light.

"3d. In having, on the 23d April 1833, sent a challenge to Captain Tritton, to fight a duel.

Finding.—"The Court having duly weighed the evidence for the prosecution, together with what the prisoner has urged in his defence is of opinion, that he,

Captain George Hamilton Cox, of the 62d Regt N. I. is,

"On the 1st instance of the charge, guilty of having addressed an intemperate and offensive note to Captain John Tritton of His Majesty's 11th Light Dragoons, but acquit him of officer like conduct.

"On the 2d instance, not guilty.

"On the 3d instance, not proved consequently it acquits him.

"Sentence.—" The Court having found the prisoner guilty of so much of the charge as is mentioned above, sentences him to be admonished in such way as His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief may deem proper."

Sindia, Sept. 3, 1833.

"Sir,—I cannot convey to you my sentiments on the Court Martial of which you are President, on the trial of Captain Cox, of the 62d N. I., better than by sending you a copy of the opinion of the Judge Advocate General, contained in his report to me on the proceedings, and have to desire, that you will re-assemble the court, and call upon the members to decide conscientiously according to the evidence before them, unmindful what the Mutiny Act may impose upon them, if their verdict be consistent with the direct evidence of Captain Tritton, supported by the clearest and most satisfactory documents.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. BARNES,
Commander-in-Chief.

TO COL. OGLANDER, H. M. 26th Regt.
Extract from the remarks by the Judge Advocate General on the trial of Captain Cox, of the 62d Native Infantry, (enclosed in the above letter.)

"Of the 3d instance, of sending a challenge, the court acquit him, it not being proved.

It is in evidence that Captain Cox, in a letter to the Deputy Assistant Adjutant General, writes thus: "the taunting, bitter and insulting letter to Captain Tritton, led me naturally to conclude, his object was personal hostility, and with this idea strongly impressed upon my mind, I demanded from Captain Tritton that satisfaction which his irritating language had goaded me to expect." Here is a clear admission of the challenge.

From the evidence of Captain Tritton, it appears that he received a message from Captain Cox, wishing to make the subject of it a private quarrel, and that he so persisted, through the medium of a friend, that Captain Cox sent him (Captain Tritton) a paper containing the following words. "Captain Tritton having insulted me, and having refused to treat with my friend on the usual terms, I post him as a coward."

"Captain Tritton is asked 'did he send you a challenge to fight a duel?' answer 'Yes, in writing through the medium of a friend, in these words: 'if you refuse to treat with me in the usual way as Captain Cox's friend, he will post you as a coward:—I (Captain Tritton) could put no other construction upon these words, than that if I refused to give Captain Cox a meeting, he would carry his threat into execution.

And it is in proof that Captain Cox did so.

I humbly submit to your excellency, whether proof of a challenge can be more decisive and more abundantly exhibited, yet the court acquit, affecting to accept the word "treat" used by Captain Cox's friend in the message, and Captain Cox himself in the posting, as an invitation to explain: nothing can be more untenable. When a man has written injuriously affecting another, it is not the writer's interpretation of his expression that is admitted, but the acceptance of their meaning by those to whom they are addressed, and for whom they are meant, and the obvious and common understanding of them.

The very words of the posting is proof of the challenge, for when, in the history of duelling, is the opprobrious word "coward" used, but on a refusal to meet. The penalty on conviction is imperative, cashiering, and the court, I conceive, were on the evidence before them, bound to pronounce it. Its enforcement was for the consideration of the Commander-in-Chief.

Revised Finding.—"The court having duly considered the above documents, still adhere to their former finding."

Disapproved,

(Signed) E. BARNES,
Commander-in-Chief.

REMARKS BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

The Commander-in-Chief has never known an instance of more flagrant breach of duty on the part of a Court Martial, than in the original finding of that which sat for the trial of Captain Cox, of the 62d Regiment N. I., on the 3d instance of charge, and in their pertinacious adherence to the same on the revision of their proceedings.

Captain Cox is to be released from arrest and return to his duty.

The General Court Martial of which Colonel Oglander is president, is now solved.

No. 750.—At a General Court Martial, assembled at Meerut on Tuesday, the 16th July 1833, Lieutenant and Breve Captain John Tritton, of His Majes-

ty's 11th Regt of Lt. Dragoon was arraigned on the following charges:—

"1st. In having addressed a highly offensive letter, in a private form, dated Landour, 22d April 1833, to Captain G. H. Cox, of the 62d N. I., commanding the Convalescent depot at Landour, requiring explanation regarding a point of duty, and in manner altogether unwarranted, as Captain Cox was not under his (Captain Tritton's) orders.

"2d. In having addressed an insulting and irritating letter in a public shape dated Landour, 23d April 1833, to the said Captain Cox, as in temporary command of the Convalescent depot, which highly offensive letter contained a copy of the private letter of the day before specified in the 1st charge.

"3d. With disrespectful conduct to Major General Sir Samford Whittingham, K. C. B. and K. C. H., Commanding the Meerut Division, in having, instead of making a complaint of the matter in which he felt himself aggrieved and submitting the case for the decision of, and soliciting redress from the Major General, who was on the spot, addressed the offensive letters specified in the first and second charges, directly to Captain Cox; and further having addressed a letter to the said Captain Cox, dated Landour 23d April 1833, in which he ordered the said Captain Cox to consider himself under arrest.

Finding.—"The court having duly weighed the evidence on the part of the prosecution, together with what the prisoner has urged in his defence is of opinion that he (Captain John) Tritton is "Not Guilty of the 1st Charge, and does therefore acquit him.

"Guilty of the 2d Charge.

"Not Guilty of the 3d Charge, of which it most fully and entirely acquits him.

Sentence.—"The Court having found the Prisoner Guilty of the 2d Charge, Sentences him to be admonished in such manner as His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief may deem proper."

Approved and Confirmed,
(Signed) E. BARNES, *Commander in Chief.*

REMARKS BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF.

Although the Commander-in-Chief has had some difficulty in reconciling the consistency of the Court, in acquitting Captain Tritton on the first charge, and finding him Guilty on the second, he will not deny him the full benefit of the decision of the Court.

The Commander-in-Chief is also fully satisfied, that Captain Tritton intended no disrespect to Major General Sir Sam-

ford Whittingham, when he abruptly placed Captain Cox in arrest; still it is to be lamented, that he had not adopted the more regular course of making a report to the Major General of the circumstances which had occurred, particularly as he was on the spot: and an immediate reference might have been made to him; and the Commander-in-Chief has further to remark, that if this measure had in the first instance been resorted to, and an appeal made to Sir Samford Whittingham against the unjustifiable selection of Captain Tritton, of His Majesty's 11th Light Dragoons, for the duties of a Member of a Committee on Invalids of the Sirmoor Battalion, the whole of the subsequent transactions, leading to these trials, would have been averted.

The Commander-in-Chief has only to lament that Officers of such high respectability and character as Captains Tritton and Cox, should have been led away by personal feelings from the straight forward path of Military duty.

Captain Tritton released from arrest, and to return to his duty.

19TH OCTOBER.—Paragraphs of Letters, from the Court of Directors in the Military Department.

Letter dated 30th April, 1833—"Para. 1st. We have granted Lieutenant J. Campbell, of your Establishment, a further extension of his Furlough for the period of six months.

2nd. We have permitted Ensign R. W. R. Jenner of your Establishment, to defer his departure for India until the month of May."

Letter dated 1st May, 1833—"Para. 2. The undermentioned Officers, belonging to your Establishment, have been respectively permitted to remain in this Country for the further period of twelve months

Lieutenant Colonel C. Fitzgerald.

Lieutenant Alexander Learmonth.

3. We have permitted Captain John Watson Hall, late of your Establishment to retire from the Company's Service. His retirement takes effect from the 13th April 1831."

Letter dated 15th May. "Para. 2. The undermentioned Officers, belonging to your Establishment have been permitted to remain in Europe for the further periods stated against their respective names:

Ensign Charles D. Pailey, six months.

Assistant Surgeon D. Wardlaw until January next.

Letter dated 22d May—"Para. 2nd. We have granted Lieutenant Colonel J. Caulfield, of your Establishment, an extension of his Furlough for the space of six months.

2. We have permitted Lieutenant Colonel Foster Walker, of your Establishment, to remain in this Country until the end of November next.

4. We have permitted Easign W. H. Peprose, late of your Establishment, to resign the service. His resignation takes effect from the 28th January 1831.

Letter dated 5th June.—“The under-mentioned Officers, belonging to your Establishment are permitted to remain in this Country for the further periods stated against their respective names:

Lieutenant Edward C. Archibald, until the month of November next.

Surgeon J. Watson, twelve months.

Letter dated 18th June.—“The under-mentioned Officers, belonging to your Establishment have been permitted to remain six months longer in England.

Lieutenant Colonel Thom is Barron.

Captain Thomas Warlow.

Extract of a Letter, from the Court of Directors, under date the 13th April 1833, and the Regulation now promulgated to have effect at the Three Presidencies from the present date:

“Para. 6th. Having taken into consideration the Allowances proper to be granted to Subaltern Officers of Engineers not in charge of Public Works, but attached to the Sappers and Miners or employed under other Engineer Officers. We have resolved that in lieu of the occasional grants proposed by you, they shall receive in addition to the Regimental Allowances of the corresponding ranks of Artillery at the same Stations, a permanent Allowance of Thirty Rupees a month for a Palanquin, which, we apprehend, may frequently be requisite to Engineer Officers engaged in Superintending Public Works.”

No. 151 of 1833.—With reference to the Regulations now in force, for restricting the withdrawal of Officers from Regimental Duty for Staff Employment. The following Extract of a Letter, from the Court of Directors, published in General Orders, and the rule therein laid down is made applicable to the Three Presidencies:

Para. 3. “Although we attach a very high importance to the rules established for restricting the withdrawal of Officers from Regimental Duty for Staff Employment. We shall not refuse our sanction to the exception recommended by the Commander-in-Chief and by the Governor General, in favor of Officers selected for the Personal Staff of the Governor General, the Commander-in-Chief, the Vice President in Council, an Aide-de-Camp of General Officers on the Staff,

but upon the condition, (suggested by the Governor General,) that “no Officer shall be informally withdrawn from his Corps to the obvious detriment of its efficiency; and that an Officer taken out of order from a Regiment shall not be eligible for transfer from a Personal Staff Appointment to any permanent detached employment, unless whilst so withdrawn, the Staff Absentees from his Corps shall be brought below the prescribed number.”

7th October, 1833.—No. 752.—At a General Court Martial, held at Cawnpore on the 26th of August 1833, Private William Presland, of H. M.’s 44th Reg. of Foot, was tried on the Charge of having, at Cawnpore, on the afternoon of the 31st of July 1833, about the hour of 4 or 5 o’clock, wilfully, feloniously, and of malice aforethought, murdered Margaret Presland, his wife, by striking her with his hand several blows, from which blows she, the said Margaret Presland, then and there soon after died.

Upon which Charge the Court found the Prisoner Not Guilty of the crime of murder alleged against him; but Guilty of Manslaughter, and Sentenced him to suffer solitary confinement for the space of (6) six Calendar months. The Commander-in-Chief Approved and Confirmed the sentence.

15th October, 1833.—General the Right Honorable Lord William Cavendish Bentinck, G. C. B. and G. C. H., having been appointed to be Commander-in-Chief of all His Majesty’s Land Forces serving in the Territories of the Honorable Company, and of all the Company’s Military Forces in the East Indies, has accordingly this-day assumed the Command of the Army.

Ordered, that His Lordship’s Appointment be communicated to the Army in General Orders, and that the Commissions constituting him Commander-in-Chief be read to the Troops with the usual ceremonies.

Ordered, that all Returns of the Army be made in the usual manner to His Excellency General the Right Hon’ble Lord William Cavendish Bentinck, G. C. B. and G. C. H., as Commander-in-Chief. East India House, London the 4th June 1833.

(A true copy.)

(Signed) P. AUBER, Secretary.

The Right Hon’ble the Governor General in Council directs, that all Distinctions and Honors which were paid to His Excellency General Sir Edward Barnes, G. C. B., when in office, shall be continued to His Excellency during his stay in India.

WM. CAEMENT, Secy to Govt. Mil. Dept.

MILITARY BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

- Sept 3 Delhie, the lady of Thomas Polwhele, 42d Regt. N. I., of a son.
 .. Rajcote, the lady of Captain D. Shaw, 20th Regt. N. I., of a son.
 9 Alomah, the lady of Captain Buttenshaw, of a still-born daughter.
 .. Bareilly, the lady of Captain Wake, 44th Regt. N. I., of a daughter.
 11 Ahmednuggur, the lady of Captain J. Swainson, Acting Military Paymaster at the Presidency, of a daughter
 13 Bandah, the lady of Lieutenant Harris, of the 70th Regiment, of a son.
 .. Dinapore, the lady of Lieut. McGeorge, of the 7th Regt. N. I. of a daughter.
 19 Calcutta, the lady of Captain George Hogarth, of His Majesty's 26th Foot, of a still born child
 20 Cawnpore, the Lady of Captain R. Roberts, of the Horse Artillery, of a daughter.
- Oct. 1 Muttra, the Lady of Captain Andrew Spens, 7th N. I. of a son.
 2 Fort William, the Lady of the late Captain J. Vincent, H. M.'s 16th Lanciers, of a daughter.
 3 Secunderabad, the lady of E. W. .., Esq. Assistant Surgeon, 50th Regt. N. I. of a daughter.
 4 Calcutta, the Lady of the late Captain W. J. Crawley, of a son.
 6 Sahialah, the lady of Lieut. L. H. Low, 30th Regt. N. I. of a son.
 7 Cawnpore, the lady of Lieut. Charles Finch Farmer, 21st Regt. N. I. of a still-born son.
 11 Lucknow, the lady of Lieut. W. B. Holmes, 12th Regt. N. I. of a daughter.
 13 Lucknow, the lady of Lieut. W. I. Macvittie, of a daughter.
 .. Meerut, the lady of Lieut. W. Martin, 52d Regt. N. I. of a daughter.
 15 Sylhet, the wife of Ensign J. T. Wilcox, 49th Regt. N. I. of a daughter.
 .. Agra, the lady of R. G. Hughes, Esq. H. M.'s 13th Light Infantry, of a daughter.
 22 Lucknow, the lady of Lieut. A. Barclay, 12th Regt. N. I. of a still-born son.
 27 Agra, the Lady of Captain Atchinson, 23th Regiment, of a Daughter.
 30 Arringabad, the Lady of R. Riddell, Esq of a Daughter.
- Nov. 1 Dinapore, the lady of Lieut. George Powell Thomas, 6th Regt. of a son.
 3 Calcutta, the lady of Lieut. Interpreter and Quarter Master Lamb, 51st Regt. N. I. of a son.
 5 the Lady of Major Wymer, Commanding 61st Regiment, of a Daughter.
 .. Muttra, the Lady of Assistant Surgeon James McRae, of a Daughter.
 20 Calcutta, the lady of Lieut. R. J. L. Birch, Deputy Judge Advocate General, of a Daughter.

MARRIAGES.

- Sept. 6 Cawnpore, Lieutenant Vincent Eyre, Artillery, to Emily, only daughter of the late Colonel Sir James Mount, Bart., Bengal Engineers.
 19 Chinsurah, Lieut. Blair, of the Buffs, to Miss Louisa Killich.
 23 Fort William, William Colis, apprentice, General Hospital, to Miss Gawke
 30 Cawnpore, George Poyntz Ricketts, Esq. of the 1st Regiment Bengal Light Cavalry, to Isabella Victoria, youngest daughter of the late Peter Begbie, Esq.
- Oct. 2 Cuddalore, Mr. W. Baker, Assistant Apothecary, to Maria, eldest daughter of Mr. Apothecary M. MacFarlane.
 7 Dinapore, Lieutenant John Grant Geriard, European Regiment, to Mary Anne, second daughter of Capt. M. A. Bunbury, 40th Regt. N. I.
 19 Calcutta, Lieutenant William Paynter Kenneway Browne, H. M.'s 49th Regiment, to Miss Eliza Gibbons.
 21 Sylhet, Ensign J. M. Bennet, of the Bengal European Regiment, to Sarah, fourth day of Mr. George Inglis.

- Oct. 22 Ahmednuggur, Captain C. S. Stenart, 4th Regiment N. I. to Elizabeth Anne, youngest daughter of Col. R. A. Wallis, of this Establishment.
- 28 St. Thomas's Church, C. R. Hogg Esq. of the European Regiment, eldest son of Colonel Hogg, of the Bombay Establishment, to Helen, third daughter of the late Lieut.-Colonel Cotgrave, Madras Engineers.
- " Bombay, Edwin Charles Cotgrave, Esq. 20th Regiment N. I., second son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Cotgrave, Madras Engineers, to Anne Maria, third daughter of the late Charles Hooke, Esq. of Brighton.
- 31 Bombay, Lieut. Frederick Bristow, H. M.'s 6th Royal Warwickshire Regt. to Miss Caroline Pollexfen.
- " Agra, Walter A. Venour, Esq. Superintending Surgeon, to Anne, daughter of Wm. Ling, Esq. Collector of Customs.
- Nov. 3 Agra, Walter A. Venour, Esq. Superintending Surgeon, to Anne, daughter of William Ling, Esq. Collector of Customs.
- 7 Cawnpore, John Strange Chapman, 1 sq. Assistant Surgeon, 16th Queen's Lancers, to Georgiana, youngest daughter of the late George Poyntz Ricketts, Esq. Bengal Civil Service.

DEATHS.

- Sept. 1 Cawnpore, Ensign P. T. R. White, H. M.'s 31st Regt. N. I., aged 26 years, second son of W. R. White, Esq., Surgeon to H. M.'s 6th Lancers.
- 4 Colaba, Fanny Myrah, the Lady of William G. Jolliffe, Esq. I. N., Store-keeper, aged 27 years.
- 11 Cawnpore, Charles Lisle Penraddocke, son of Captain William Burlton, Assistant Commissary General, aged 8 months and 15 days.
- 13 Chunar, Lieut. Col. Ariol, commanding the Garrison of Chunar.
- " Burdwan, Captain John Wogan Patton, of the 31st Regt. N. I., Executive Officer of the Division.
- 18 Mhow, Captain A. Macdonald, of the 16th Regt. N. I., aged, 28 years.
- 23 Calcutta, Captain Joseph Hodges, aged 78 years, 2 months and 27 days.
- 24 Cawnpore, the infant son of Lieut. Col. T. Maddock, aged 11 months.
- 25 Lucknow, Captain J. D. Herbert, of the 9th Regt. Bengal N. I.
- Oct. 2 Banleah, the Lady of Captain Warner, Executive Officer, 4th Division.
- 9 Mussoorie, William, the infant son of Lieutenant-Col. Anderson, 62d Regiment N. I., aged 2 years and 11 months.
- 10 Calcutta, Mrs. Ann Mills, widow of the late Captain John Mills, aged 65 years.
- 11 Captain James Robert Oliver, late of the H. C. Naval Service, aged 50 years.
- 14 Calcutta, Mrs. Catherine Clarke, wife of Mr. T. Clarke, H. C. Marine Service, aged 29 years, 2 months and 10 days.
- Oct. 15 Calcutta, Mr. Sub-Conductor M. Mathews, of the Department of Public Works.
- " Calcutta, Ann, the infant daughter of the late Captain J. Vincent, H. M.'s 16th Lancers, aged 26 days.
- " Dum-Dum, Richard Scrope Bernard Morland, Captain in the Bengal Artillery, third son of the late Sir Scrope Bernard Morland, Bart., of Winchendon, Bucks, aged 40 years.
- 20 Nussereabad, Major N. S. Webb, Commanding 2d Battalion of Artillery, N. I., aged 2 years.
- 23 Hansi, William, the fourth son of Lieutenant-Col. Skinner, C. B., aged 17 years, and 16 months.
- 24 Meerut, Emily Vane, infant daughter of S. Lightfoot, Esq. 69th Regt.
- 31 Sylhet, Mary Ann, the wife of Captain W. Prentice.

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